FBIS DAILY REPORT

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U.S.-USSR ARMS TRADE TALKS BEGIN IN HELSINKI

LD041837Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1812 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Helsinki--Soviet-U.S. consultations for the discussion of questions concerning the limitation of the international arms trade have begun here.

The Soviet delegation to the consultations is led by Ambassador Lev Mendelevich; the U.S. delegation is led by L. Gelb, director of the U.S. State Department Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs.

Organizational questions of the present round of consultations were agreed on 3 May at a meeting of the heads of the two delegations.

The first plenary meeting was held on 4 May.

U.S., UK, USSR NUCLEAR WEAPONS TREATY TALKS REPORTED

LD041524Y Moscow TASS in English 1455 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, May 4, TASS--The USSR, the United States and Britain today resumed talks here with the aim of drafting a treaty on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests.

In this connection, the following statement was made by the head of the USSR delegation, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilisation of Atomic Energy Andranik Petrosyants:

The Soviet delegation has come to Geneva with the aim of continuing together with the United States and Britain the work in the direction of the speediest attainment of agreement on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, which is of substantial importance for advance along the road of restraining the arms race and transition to real disarmament.

In his speech on April 25, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev noted that lately there had been certain progress at the tripartite talks and expressed hope that the matter would be conducted to the end and the relevant treaty signed in the near future.

The Soviet delegation is prepared to do everything possible for the successful completion of the talks and the speediest solution of this important international problem.

DELEGATES TO VIENNA CONFERENCE CALL FOR END TO ARMS RACE

LD042250Y Moscow TASS in English 2205 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, May 4 TASS--TASS correspondent Igor Maslov reports:

Questions of consolidation of mutual understanding among nations, of implementation in full volume of the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe are in the spotlight of attention of the participants in the third interparliamentary conference on cooperation and security in Europe now under way in Vienna. In their speeches at the plenary meeting, many parliamentarians expressed profound concern with the continued armed race on which billions are squandered, particularly with the development in the United States of the new type of mass destruction weapons--the neutron bomb.

As the chairman of the parliamentary group of the GDR H. Fechner said, cessation of the arms race and prevention of a thermonuclear war is the most important task of the parliamentarians. He emphasized the great importance of the proposal of the Warsaw Treaty member countries that all countries, participants in the European conference should assume the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons against one another.

S. Haydash of Canada spoke about the importance of continuation of the policy of detente. He pointed out that it is necessary to expand all-round and mutually advantageous cooperation of states with different social systems.

Soviet delegate Lev Tolkunov stressed that the Soviet Union will continue pressing consistently and energetically for implementation of the proposals aimed at supplementing the political detente with measures in the military sphere. He said that the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev advanced from the rostrum of the 18th congress of the Young Communist League a broad programme of measures aimed at complete cessation of further quantitative and qualitative growth of armaments and armed forces of states with large military potential.

The final act adopted in Helsinki has a great moral and political importance, said O. Hennig of the FRG. Proceeding from this document, the FRG will be making efforts aimed at consolidation of security in Europe.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS SITUATION IN LEBANON

Resolution Adopted

LD040924Y Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 4, TASS--The United Nations Security Council reconvened on Wednesday to consider the question of cutting short Israel's aggression against Lebanon.

The intricate and tense situation, which is maintained in Lebanon as a result of Israel's continued aggression against that country, arouses most serious anxiety. A month and a half has passed since the Security Council adopted a resolution on the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the entire territory of Lebanon. However, this resolution has not yet been complied with.

Oleg Troyanovskiy, the permanent representative of the USSR at the United Nations, setting forth the Soviet position at the meeting of the Security Council, emphasized that Israel, on various pretexts, evaded in every way the complete withdrawal of its troops from the Lebanese territory, sought to drag on the illegal occupation of the south of Lebanon. These Israeli actions, the Soviet representative pointed out, are a direct and intolerable challenge to the Security Council and the United Nations organization as a whole.

Israel's aggressive actions in Lebanon, the Soviet representative went on to say, are part and parcel of its expansionist policy aimed at the seizure of Arab lands and at depriving the Arab people of Palestine of the possibility of exercising their inalienable rights.

The Soviet delegation believes, Oleg Troyanovskiy said, that the Security Council must take vigorous and effective actions to ensure the immediate fulfilment, without any conditions or deviations, of the Council's resolution on the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the entire territory of Lebanon.

United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim in his statement expresses concern over incidents in recent days, involving the United Nations force in Lebanon. He pointed out that it was necessary to ensure the complete withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the entire territory of Lebanon so as to prevent further such incidents and to normalize the situation.

The Security Council adopted a resolution once again urging Israel to immediately withdraw all its troops from the entire Lebanese territory.

USSR Abstains

LD041510Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] The UN Security Council reconvened on Wednesday to review Israel's continuing aggression against Lebanon.

The Security Council has agreed with the recommendation made by the UN secretary general on increasing the number of UN peace-keeping forces in Lebanon. The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia abstained from voting, expressing serious doubt as to the advisability of increasing the number of forces in Lebanon. Taking into consideration, however, the position of Arab sides directly concerned with this matter, the delegation from the Soviet Union did not prevent the Security Council from adopting the appropriate decision.

Radio Comment

LD041406Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "A New Resolution by the Security Council on Lebanon"]

[Text] The Security Council has adopted yet another resolution calling on Israel to immediately withdraw its forces from Lebanese territory. It also adopted a resolution to increase the number of the UN peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

In his speech at the Security Council, Soviet delegate Oleg Troyanovskiy stressed that Israeli aggressive action in Lebanon is part of the expansionist policy which seeks to take over Arab territories and to deprive the Palestenian Arab people of their legitimate national rights. He added that Israel's desire to prolong its occupation of Lebanese territory is in direct defiance of the Security Council and the United Nations. This cannot be accepted. The Soviet Union calls on the Security Council to adopt vital and effective measures to insure the speedy and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from Lebanon. It is the Soviet Union's view that without this it is not possible to return the situation to normal in this Arab country.

The events in Lebanon are the direct result of not settling the Middle East conflict, and in particular the main point, that of realizing the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. The responsibility in delaying the just and comprehensive settlement of the problem is borne not only by Israel but also by the United States, which supports by various means the current policy of Tel Aviv, encouraging it to persist in its aggression on the Arabs and in colonizing their land. It also assists the aggressors in the mass annihilation of Palestinians. It is obvious that opposing such a policy is the duty of not only the Arabs, their friends and allies, but also all the member states of the United Nations and the Security Council.

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN SUMS UP NAMIBIA DEBATE

LD050806Y Moscow TASS in English 0739 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 5, TASS--"It is the duty of the United Nations organization to give all-round support to the people of Namibia so that they could attain freedom and independence within the framework of a sovereign and united state," said here Lazar Mojsov, chairman of the 32nd session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Summing up the results of the U.N. General Assembly's special session on Namibia, Lazar Mojsov emphasized that the overwhelming majority of the U.N. member-states fully agree with the aims of the United Nations organization--termination of South Africa's illegal presence in Namibia and attainment of freedom and independence by Namibia's people. It is a particular responsibility of the United Nations to see to it that an end be put once and for all to racist-colonial rule in Namibia, he said.

Namibia, Lazar Mojsov said, should get full independence and sovereignty without any preliminary conditions or backstage manoeuvres aimed at prolonging that country's illegal occupation by the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa. Namibia should take its legitimate place among the states, members of the United Nations organization. Our firm hope is that in the near future Namibia will become a full-fledged U.N. member, as a free, independent and sovereign state.

SOCIALIST STATES' UN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE SESSION STATEMENT

LD050912Y Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 5, TASS--The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have made a joint statement at the U.N. economic committee. The statement sets out their principled stand on pressing problems of international economic relations.

Having read out the statement, the USSR's representative Yevgeniy Makeyev noted that the positive changes in the world political situation make possible an active search for ways of restructuring the outdated inequitable system of capitalist international relations in the spirit of new realities of world development.

The present-day character of international economic relations, which were established under a quite different alignment of world forces and which accorded only with the mercenary interests of imperialist monopolies, has come in conflict with the vital interests of a vast majority of the countries and the development of the general international situation, stresses the joint statement of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the USSR, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. This discrepancy started manifesting itself particularly acutely after the process of relaxation of tension created prerequisites for solution of pressing economic problems in the interests of all peoples of the world.

But in the world forces are still active which do not like detente at all, the statement runs. In the face of the distinct perspective of improvement of the international climate, certain circles are stepping up attempts to come into offensive in order to push the world back to the "Cold War" times. These circles stake at unrestrained arms race, preservation of old and creation of new seats of tension, at perpetuating the vestiges of colonialism and racism, which regatively affects the state of international economic relations.

The developing countries, the statement points out, which in their majority attained state independence only in the recent decades, face a very complicated and also a very important task--to finally extricate themselves from the shackles of colonialism and neocolonialism, to overcome in a historically brief period of time economic backwardness, poverty, hunger, diseases. In these conditions the main factor of attaining real progress by developing countries is their relentless struggle against neocolonialism in international economic relations and their fundamental socioeconomic transformation.

The socialist countries have reaffirmed once again their determination to take further steps for the development of international economic cooperation on a democratic basis, including with developing countries. We are ready to cooperate with all, the joint statement runs, who are interested in consolidation of international peace and security, in mankind's economic and social progress.

IU DELEGATIONS ATTENDING MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS ABROAD LISTED

LD041335Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 29 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Departure of Delegations"]

[Text] At the invitation of the national trade union associations of foreign countries, Soviet trade union delegations departed by air to take part in the celebrations of the Day of International Solidarity of Working People on 1 May as follows:

To Bulgaria--headed by I.A. Chunikhin, chairman of the Lipetskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; to Hungary--headed by V.A. Makaryin, chairman of the Arkhangelskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; to the GDR--headed by P.I. Lyubovskiy, chairman of the Smolenskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; to Cuba--headed by M.N. Nevzgodina, secretary of the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Workers in Textile and Light Industry; to Mongolia--headed by V.V. Shkvorts, chairman of the Cherkasskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; to Poland--headed by D. Ya. Brusnik, chairman of the Kustanayskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; to Romania--headed by P.S. Kilin, chairman of the Krasnoyarskiy Kray Trade Union Council; to Czechoslovakia--headed by D. Kutybayev, chairman of the Karakalpakskiy Oblast Trade Union Council.

Delegations have also set off:

For Egypt--headed by L.N. Kurzin, chairman of the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Geological Prospecting Workers; for the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen--headed by M.A. Osipov, chairman of the Karelskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; for the Congo--headed by M.A. Orlov, chairman of the Moskovskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; for Mali--headed by E.E. Kapba, secretary of the Georgia Republican Trade Union Council; for Morocco--headed by G.M. Pyzhik, chairman of the Lvovskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; for Norway--headed by R.K. Sabanchiyeva, chairman of the Kabardino-Balkarskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; for Portugal--headed by Ye.A. Asayevich, chairman of the Minskiy Oblast Trade Union Council; and for Ethiopia--headed by I.Ya. Larchenko, chairman of the Belgorodskiy Oblast Trade Union Council.

NOVOYE VREMYA VIEWS OUTCOME OF SECRETARY VANCE'S MOSCOW TALKS

LD041422Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 18, 28 Apr 78 p 10 LD

[Yu. Katin article: "Useful Talks"]

[Text] Talks were held in Moscow from 20 through 22 April between A.A. Gromyko, Politburo member and USSR foreign minister, and U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance. C. Vance was also received by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Regular contacts between the leaders of the two countries have become a characteristic feature of contemporary world politics. And this is understandable, for at the center of the relations between the USSR and United States stand the problems of insuring peace and security and eliminating the threat of nuclear missile war; that is, precisely those questions which in the final analysis concern people most of all. An indisputable reality of international life is that the general situation in the world depends to a large extent on the state of Soviet-American relations, their tone and direction.

One does not have to be a specialist to assess the importance of the present moment in Soviet-American relations. The deceleration in their development which arose in the last 2 to 3 years though no fault of the Soviet side could turn out to be more than an unjustified waste of time. It is also fraught with more alarming consequences--the gradual erosion of the foundation for restructuring international relations which was the result of the great work both sides laid down at the beginning of the current decade.

Throughout recent years the opponents of detente in the United States have been ceaselessly stepping up their efforts in striving to prevent any improvement in Soviet-American relations. They utilized to the full the inconsistent line of the Washington administration as regards the preparation of a new long-term agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. As a result a paradoxical situation arose: According to a public opinion poll the overwhelming majority of the American people are in favor of concluding an agreement with the Soviet Union. But the trend in this important matter is sometimes set by the violent opponents of an understanding with the USSR. They are trying to convince the American public that the U.S. Congress would not ratify a new agreement although, as is known, its preparation is not yet completed and indeed few of the opponents of the agreement could competently assess the provisions already agreed upon, because of the complexity of the very theme of the talks. The Americans have already gotten it into their heads that any step by the United States aimed at reaching an understanding in this field is a concession to the Soviet Union.

Speaking aboard the cruiser Admiral Senyavin in Vladivostok, L.I.Brezhnev noted: Further procrastinating and any kind of maneuvering on the talks can only lead to missing the very opportunity of concluding an agreement, and perhaps, the opportunity of subsequently going over to more far-reaching steps on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms.

Such a situation cannot, of course, satisfy either the Soviet people or the peoples of other countries. Only new joint steps are capable of altering the situation for the better--and there is a chance of this. The Soviet-American meeting pursued precisely this aim.

Particular attention at the talks, as the joint announcement pointed out, was paid to the task of elaborating and implementing further measures aimed at averting nuclear war and limiting arms.

A useful and detailed discussion was held of the state of affairs in the preparation of a new agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation. As a result, the position of the sides drew nearer on several of the questions still unresolved.

During the talks between L.I. Brezhnev and C. Vance both sides expressed their determination to bring matters to a speedy completion in elaborating the agreement so that it can be concluded as soon as possible. It was stressed that this would serve equally the interests of Soviet and American security and the interests of strengthening world peace.

A.A. Gromyko and C. Vance also discussed other questions of disarmament which are the subject of talks between the two countries. Particular stress was laid here on the need to achieve the practical results at the talks.

An exchange of opinions took place on the problem of a Near East settlement, whose prospects have been seriously complicated as a result of the separate Egyptian-Israeli "initiatives" supported by the United States.

Before departing Moscow by plane Secretary of State C. Vance expressed his satisfaction with the talks held. He also came out in favor of adopting practical measures on restricting the arms race.

It is to be hoped that in this main question of relations between our two countries, the American side will not limit itself to statements.

PRAVDA CITES CONGRESSMAN WEISS' OPPOSITION TO NEUTRON BOMB

LD041425Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] New York, 2 May, TASS--T. Weiss, member of the House of Representatives, has sharply criticized the plans for the production and deployment of the neutron weapon under the pretext of the mythical "Soviet military threat." In an article published in the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, he described as erroneous Washington's intention of using the neutron weapon as a "trump card" in the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms.

"The sad and horrific experience of the nuclear arms race," the Congressman noted, "teaches us that an advance by one side in the sphere of arms is rapidly compensated for by the other side. You cannot intimidate the Soviet Union with the neutron bomb."

T. Weiss decisively refuted the arguments of the supporters of producing the neutron bomb to the effect that it is a "purely defensive weapon." Citing the opinion of experts, he stated that the neutron bomb is intended above all "for achieving offensive aims."

PRAVDA NOTES CARTER'S 'MORAL COMMITMENT' TO ISRAEL

LD041449Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Washington, 2 May, TASS--Israeli Prime Minister Begin, who is in the United States, has had talks with President J. Carter and Secretary of State C. Vance. The New York DAILY NEWS writes that the talks ended on "a considerably more optimistic note" than during Begin's visit to the United States in March of this year, when the American press tried to create the appearance of disagreements between the two countries.

That this was only another U.S. propaganda ruse is attested to eloquently by the statement made by the American head of government at a reception held in the White House in honor of Begin.

"We will never hesitate," J. Carter said, "in our absolute commitment to insure Israel's security. I can state definitely that we will always fulfill this commitment."

The U.S. President's statement received loud applause from the American Zionist leaders present at the reception. In his reply speech Begin described Carter's statement as "one of the greatest moral commitments" ever made by the United States. In Washington "insuring the security" of Israel implies building up Israeli military potential, which gives Tel Aviv the opportunity to carry out an openly aggressive course in relations toward the neighboring Arab countries and to oppose the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Near East.

ZIONISTS PRESSURE U.S. CONGRESS ON ARMS SALE PACKAGE

LD041330Y Moscow TASS in English 1227 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 4, TASS--The United States administration is stepping up pressure on Congress to have its plan for the sale of a large consignment of war planes to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt approved. The new American arms deliveries to the Middle East aroused a real threat of further aggravation of the situation in that explosive region.

This plan was supported in the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee by Cyrus Vance, the U.S. secretary of state, Harold Brown, the defence secretary, David Jones, acting chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and by Paul Warnke, [words indistinct] Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. State Secretary Vance specifically emphasized that the planned deal would improve United States relations with those three countries which played a critically important part in the attainment of major foreign political aims of the United States.

Expecting to strengthen its positions in the Middle East as a result of As-Sadat's capitulatory policy and to create appearances of a "balanced nature" of American foreign policy, Washington worked out a plan for delivering 15 up-to-date F-15 fighters and 75 F-16 [word indistinct] bombers to Israel, 60 F-15 aircraft to Saudi Arabia and 50 old F-5 fighters to Egypt. Thus, the United States administration expects not only to satisfy Tel Aviv's demands for fresh delivery of weaponry, but also to "take into consideration the interests" of Saudi Arabia, the principal oil exporter to the United States, and also to Egypt.

Washington's plan envisages the delivery of the bulk of weaponry to Israel, but it sparked off protests from the pro-Israeli lobby in the USA, which believes that the planes allocated to Tel Aviv are "not enough" and objects to their deliveries to Arab countries.

The massive campaign of the Zionist lobby and Israeli emmisaries in recent days alone, Israel's Premier Begin and Foreign Minister Dayan [words indistinct] produced its results: The United States administration submitted the plan for approval of Congress not regarding as previously the deal as a "package" and letting the legislators discussing each country separately. This enables the pro-Israeli quarters in Congress to approve the deliveries of planes to Israel soon and seek to halt the delivery of war planes to Arab countries.

BEGIN ADDRESSES U.S. AUDIENCES ON RETURN OF ARAB LAND

LD041508Y Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 4, TASS--Israeli Prime Minister Begin who is making a propagandist tour of the USA addressed eight hundred leaders of local Zionist organizations in Chicago.

Encouraged by the recent talks with the United States President Carter, Begin categorically stated that Israel will not return to the armistice lines which existed prior to the war of 1967, i.e. it will not hand back to the Arabs the lands captured as a result of the aggression. He also emphasized that Tel Aviv will not allow the establishment of an Arab Palestinian state. Israel's extremist circles are thus refusing outright to satisfy the basic requirements for a solution to the Middle East problem.

PRAVDA SCORNS U.S. PLANS FOR EVACUATING TROOPS FROM ROK

LD041429Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Washington, 2 May--TASS--The widely publicized plan for the withdrawal of American ground forces from South Korea is in fact a propaganda ruse intended to stem the wave of protests by the American public against the U.S. militarist policy abroad and to justify a sharp new buildup of armed forces by the Seoul regime. This was again demonstrated by hearings in the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

Addressing the committee, U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown confirmed that the U.S. Government has revised plans for the withdrawal of American troops from South Korea and deferred them. Thus, in 1978 it is proposed to withdraw only one battalian instead of three, as was planned earlier. More than 40,000 American servicemen are billetted in South Korea in all. It is planned to withdraw the other two battalions, together with some auxiliary subunits, in 1979. The remaining ground forces, according to H. Brown, will be shipped back to the United States "in two stages" at an unspecified time in the future. In this connection, in the minister's words, the United States retains the right to revise the schedule for the withdrawal of troops at any time.

H. Brown noted that at the same time the United States will increase the numerical strength of its air, reconnaissance, rear and other units in South Korea.

U.S.-JAPANESE DIFFERENCES PERSIST FOLLOWING FUKUDA VISIT

LD041250Y Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 4, TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports:

The prime-minister of Japan, T. Fukuda, has completed his two-day talks with the U.S. President J. Carter. As stated by a spokesman of the White House, the President and the prime-minister discussed a wide range of questions related to the international situation, including the relations of the United States and Japan with the Soviet Union, the situation in the People's Republic of China, in the Korean Peninsula and the Middle East. They stressed their allegiance to the American-Japanese Security Treaty, which is known to be the axis of the military alliance between the two countries.

The main attention during Fukuda's meetings with Carter and other high-placed representatives of the U.S. Government was devoted to the American-Japanese economic differences, which have grown considerably more acute recently. The American side insisted that Japan should reduce its positive balance in trade with the United States. With this aim in view Washington is striving to make Japan increase her import of American goods and reduce exports to the United States.

According to the White House representative, Fukuda promised to do everything in order to reduce the positive balance to 6,000 million dollars a year. However, addressing a press conference later. the prime-minister avoided mentioning concrete figures. He criticised the American side, specifically, for the state of the dollar, whose exchange rate continues to drop and for excess imports of petroleum, which has a negative effect on the economies of other capitalist countries, including Japan.

On the whole, as noted by commentators, the American-Japanese negotiations have shown that both sides have failed to find ways to overcome their sharp differences, primarily, in economic matters.

TASS COMMENTATOR SCORES U.S. ROLE IN PHILIPPINES

LD031944Y Moscow TASS in English 1841 GMT 3 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 3 TASS--TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

Vice-President of the United States Walter Mondale opened his tour of South East Asian countries and Oceania with a visit to the Philippines. Arriving in Manila on Tuesday, he set out rather outspokenly the purpose of his trip, saying that the United States' role in the western part of the Pacific is determined by its military and economic interests. We intend to protect them firmly, Mondale said.

The statement of Washington's envoy leaves no doubt that continuing and intensifying its "military presence" in Asia, the United States is concerned, above all, with its own interests and ignores the real needs of the peoples of this vast area. The Philippines' example shows how the protection of U.S. interests in Asia affects the countries of the area. Washington is of the opinion that the United States has a special relationship with the Philippines, which is based on a number of military and political agreements. The most important of them is the agreement on bases under which the United States has two large military bases in the Philippines. About 20 thousand U.S. servicemen are stationed there.

Commercial and economic agreements imposed on the Philippines by Washington serve the United States interests, too. U.S. monopolies control over 40 per cent of the Philippines foreign trade. Nearly 70 per cent of foreign capital investments in the Philippines are U.S. investments. Economists of the Philippines estimated that U.S. monopolies get over two dollars in profit for each dollar they invest.

Perhaps, no problem is now more acute in the Philippine-U.S. relations than the problem of bases. Washington clearly has no wish to meet the Philippines just demands for establishment of its jurisdiction over the bases.

In the meantime, these large military projects of the Pentagon are not only the seat of tension in Southeast Asia but also a source of social evil for the Philippine society. The U.S. bases have been turned into breeding grounds of crime and drug addiction. The Philippine jurisdiction does not apply to U.S. servicemen, no matter what grave crimes they committed in the area of the bases. On the other hand, thousands of Philippine citizens servicing the bases are subjected to cruel discrimination. They are not allowed to form trade unions and are actually deprived of any opportunity to protect their rights.

The U.S. bases in the Philippines look an anachronism against the background of the positive changes taking place in Southeast Asia. But as Mondale's present talks in Manila indicate, Washington intends to continue flouting the national rights in the Philippines in the question of bases, to continue ignoring the changes in the Asian Continent. The United States regards it bases in the Philippines and in other areas of the western part of the Pacific as a bulwark of the U.S. "military presence" which has the purpose of protecting the interests of the United States and is aimed against the independence of Asian countries.

VANCE'S VISIT TO MEXICO VIEWED AS SYMBOLIC

LD041438Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1140 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Mexico, 4 May, TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports:

Secretary of State C. Vance has arrived in Mexico on an official visit. This trip has been staged within the framework of the existing American-Mexican agreement on mutual consultations directed at settling differences between the two countries.

C. Vance will meet the Mexican President J. Lopez Portillo, Secretary of Foreign Relations S. Roel and other representatives of the Mexican Government.

Washington, 4 May, (TASS correspondent)--American officials are appraising C. Vance's visit to Mexico with open scepticism viewing it as being "purely symbolic." In the words of representatives of the State Department no essential progress is to be expected from the talks in Mexico in the settlement of fundamental issues of bilateral relations. This, first and foremost, concerns matters pertaining to the immigration of Mexicans to the United States and the supplies of Mexican natural gas to the American market.

As is well known, under pressure from the reactionary leadership of the trade unions and from a number of congressmen, the U.S. President submitted a bill to the capitol last year which envisaged a stepping up of the struggle against Mexicans crossing the border looking for work. Washington's measures gave rise to widespread protest from the Mexican public, which viewed them as being yet another unfriendly act by the northern neighbor. The Mexican Government offered to settle the problem by legalizing the termporary arrival of Mexicans for work in the United States, but Washington refused to examine this offer.

The matter of the possible supplies of Mexican gas to the United States turned out to be in the same state of suspense. The United States has no objection to buying it, but at reduced prices which are obviously unjust. Talks on this problem have ended in deadlock.

Referring to sources in the State Department, AP notes that C. Vance "will not be able to offer anything new to Mexico as regards these important issues."

BURYAT OFFICIAL REACTS TO N.Y. TIMES STORY ON RECENT VISIT

LD050946Y Moscow TASS in English 0749 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 5, TASS--A big group of foreign correspondents, accredited in Moscow, have recently been granted an opportunity to visit Siberia, including the Buryat Autonomous Republic, located at the Baykal Lake. Many journalists provided an objective coverage of what they had seen, but David Shipler, a correspondent of the American newspaper New York TIMES used his Siberian voyage for different purposes. In his newspaper he published an article depicting Soviet Buryatiya as a backward region, with the Buryat people being subjected to "forcible russification." It is no wonder that this article was picked up by the "Voice of America" radio-station.

David Shipler's article has been made known to Andrey Modogayev, first secretary of the Buryat Regional Committee of the CPSU, and we asked him to express his opinion.

What Mr Shipler has presented to the New York TIMES readers is, softly speaking, a collection of distortions and inaccuracies, and f to speak frankly--this is misinformation, aimed at distorting the real state of affa rs, Andrey Modogayev said. What are the grounds to speak about "backwardness," about "inequality" of the Buryat people in the family of the Soviet peoples? There are no grounds at all. The facts, I repeat--not fabrications, but facts show that if 60 years ago before the October Revolution the Buryat people were subjected to brutal economic, political and racial discrimination, in the years of Soviet Government the position has fundamentally changed. All conditions have been created for material and intellectual upsurge of the Buryat people. Thanks to the assistance of the Russian and other fraternal peoples of the land of the soviets, the Buryat people acquired their statehood. They have their constitution, their government bodies, dealing with all economic and cultural matters which are in their competence.

In the past, Buryatiya was really a backward region--but now for the level of development of industry and agriculture Buryatiya is amid many other advanced areas of the USSR. The Buryat's smoky hut and the Evenk's cold tent, made of skins or bark, have receded into the past never to return. Our villages now are up-to-date well-appointed houses, schools, hospitals, palaces of culture, libraries, public service establishments. Mr Shipler has seen all this, or could have seen, at least, if he wanted. Why then is he distorting facts?

Had Mr Shipler made an effort to get acquainted with the history and culture of the Buryat people, he would know, for instance, such facts. A few decades ago the Buryat people had no written language and only four percent of the population could read and write. Now the Buryat Autonomous Republic is an area of overall literacy, more than 200,000 decendants of former nomads study free-of-charge in its schools and higher educational establishments. Tuition in schools is conducted in their native language, newspapers and magazines are printed, up to 60,000 books are put out a year. Our people now read in their native language the daily newspaper BURYATSKAYA PRAVDA, the literary journal BAYKAL. The newspaper BURYATSKAYA MOLODEZH is printed for the young people, boys and girls. Moscow publishing houses put out more than 50 books of our poets and prose-writers, translated into the Russian language, in the past two years alone. Their works are also published in languages of other peoples. In the years of Soviet Government the Buryats have created national painting, music.

There are now professional Buryat composers, which write not only songs, but also symphonies, operas, ballets, about which in Buryatiya there was no idea before. And through Mr Shipler the New York TIMES is trying in vain to present this region as "backward" and people residing in this area as being subjected to "forcible russification."

We should like to remind the following to Mr Shipler, who dwells on imaginary "forcible russification" of the Buryat culture; in many countries of Europe, Asia, Africa and also America, the audience applauds to the national, we stress--the national art of our artistes, including people's artistes of the USSR Larise Sakhyanova, Lkhasaran Linkhovoin. And 60 years ago in Buryatiya there were no professional theatres, let alone national companies. In Ulan Ude there are now four professional theatres, the philharmonic society, the national song-and-dance ensemble, in town and counteryside there are about 40 people's theatres and more than 150 amateur art companies.

These are the facts. It is not difficult to see that these facts have nothing in common with the "story" about Buryatiya presented by Mr Shipler to his readers, (and then by the "Voice of America"), Andrey Modogayev said in conclusion. His story, published in the New York TIMES, is another testimony to what unfair methods some Western journalist resort in writing stories about the USSR.

U.S. CITIZENS PROTEST JOHN HARRIS DEATH SENTENCE

LD041040Y Moscow TASS in English 1022 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Moscow, May 4, TASS--The protest movement against the pending execution of John Harris, fighter for the civil rights of American Negroes, is mounting all over the globe. World public opinion demands an annulment of the death sentence, an immediate release of the victim of racialist arbitrariness in the United States.

New York. A meeting of solidarity with John Harris under the watchword "stop legalized lynching, prevent the execution" was held in Louisville, Kentucky. Representatives of the National Union Against Racial and Political Repressions, American Civil Rights Union and local Negro organisations, who took the floor at the meeting, said that the pending execution of John Harris was one more example of racialist arbitrariness in the United States, of the desire of the authorities to intimidate the Negro population of the country cost what it may, to silence its most active representatives.

Although the postponement of the execution, brought about by mass protests in the United States and abroad, expires within a few days, a TASS correspondent was told by Elionor Garbor, one of John Harris's lawyers, the date of the execution has still not been fixed. This is a new manoeuvre of the reaction, aimed at exerting psychological pressure on John Harris and his supporters, and also to leave the lawyers as little time as possible for taking effective measures to prevent the execution.

John Harris defence committees are mailing leaflets and posters to different towns of the country telling the truth about his "case," urging to protest resolutely against the racialist sentence. Protest demonstrations are being held in many towns of the United States. Their participants demand an immediate release of John Harris and his rehabilitation from false charges.

BREZHNEV CONTINUES TALKS, ACTIVITIES IN FRG

Talks Between Scheel, Brezhnev

LD041740Y Moscow TASS in English 1732 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 4, TASS--The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev today had a conversation with the President of the FRG Walter Scheel at the Hammerschmidt Palace of the federal president.

Views were exchanged on problems of inter-state relations of the USSR and the FRG and on questions of international policy of interest to both states.

Leonid Brezhnev and Walter Scheel highly assessed the present state of relations between the USSR and the FRG and the prospects of their development, including in the political, economic and cultural fields. They shared the view that the development of these relations facilitates the normalisation of the political climate in Europe, the strengthening of peace. Readiness was expressed from both sides to facilitate the further development of these positive processes.

Taking part from the Soviet side in the conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, assistants of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Andrey Aleksandrov and Anatoliy Blatov, the USSR Ambassador to the FRG Valentin Falin; from the West German Side--Deputy Federal Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the FRG H.D. Genscher, state secretary, head of the federal president's office P. Frank, the FRG Ambassador to the USSR H.G. Wieck.

Schmidt, Brezhnev Hold First Talks

LD041912Y Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 4, TASS--General secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and Federal Chancellor of the FRG Helmut Schmidt had a conversation today. Taking part in the conversation were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and deputy federal chancellor, Foreign Minister of the FRG Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

A number of topical questions of bilateral relations between the USSR and the FRG was thoroughly discussed. It was stressed by both sides that though there exist unsolved problems between the USSR and the FRG, there are good prospects for cooperation between them. The widening and deepening of these prospects on the basis of the Moscow treaty and other agreements that were concluded meets the interests of the peoples of both countries, serves the cause of consolidation of European peace, of deepening of international detente. To proclaim the political programme of the development of peaceful cooperation of both countries for decades ahead, to outline clear prospects of the mutually-advantageous economic cooperation up to the beginning of the new millenium--such are the tasks that have become real now in the development of relations between the USSR and the FRG.

The participants in the conversation emphasized great importance of these tasks and the necessity of their solving through mutual efforts of the sides.

The conversation was of a constructive nature. The exchange of opinions will be continued.

Taking part in the conversation from the Soviet side were assistants of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Andrey Aleksandrov, Anatoliy Blatov, chief of the department of the CPSU Central Committee Leonid Zamyatin, USSR Ambassador in the FRG Valentin Falin. Taking part in the conversation from the FRG were FRG Ambassador in the Soviet Union Hans Georg Wieck, chief of the office of the federal chancellor J. Ruhfus.

[Hamburg DPA in German at 1800 GMT on 4 May 78 LD adds the following information on the talks:

"In the talk the Soviet head of state had with Federal Chancellor Schmidt, the two sides' foreign ministers, Gromyko and Genscher, took part. Afterwards, government spokesman Boelling announced that the talk, lasting almost 1 and 1/2 hours, was dominated by the desire on the part of both sides to improve and deepen the cooperation agreed upon in the 1973 agreement. Moscow and Bonn were endeavoring to develop neighborly relations, which were also of importance for the coming generation. Federal Chancellor Schmidt stressed to General Secretary Brezhnev that positive influences could be expected on political relations between both countries particularly from the economic agreement to be signed on Saturday. According to Boelling the topic of Berlin was only briefly touched upon due to lack of time. However, during the course of the visit the exchange of views on all topics will be continued. The Soviet head of state also invited the federal chancellor and Foreign Minister Genscher to visit Moscow. Schmidt had accepted these invitations with thanks, he said."]

Zamyatin Calls Talks Businesslike

LD042153 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Interview by Anatoliy Potapov, special correspondent of Soviet television and radio, with Leonid Mitrofanovich Zamyatin, who is acting as liaison with Soviet journalists, in Bonn on 4 May; recorded]

[Text] [Question] Comrade Brezhnev's conversation with Chancellor Schmidt has just ended. Leonid Mitrofanovich, what's your opinion? How did the day go in general and what was the subject of the talks with President Scheel and Chancellor Schmidt?

[Answer] Today, mainly bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany were discussed. The participants in today's talks noted with satisfaction that these relations are developing favorably and are bringing definite mutual advantage to both sides. They spoke, too, about those unsolved issues of Soviet-West German bilateral relations and about ways of overcoming these issues, these complexities and difficulties which exist. But it is precisely this high-level meeting which was called, as Leonid Ilich said, to loosen these difficult knots and to find new prospects and forms of cooperation. And it seems to me that today's conversations between Leonid Ilich, President Scheel and Federal Chancellor Schmidt definitely give some justified optimism that the meeting between the heads of the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany, being held here in Bonn, will give the opportunity to find new forms of cooperation and to establish, so to speak, new prospects in relations between our states.

[Question] How would you assess the atmosphere of today's conversations, on the whole?

[Answer] Well, you know, it was a constructive, businesslike atmosphere, and specific issues, not general subjects, were discussed.

[Question] So the atmosphere was businesslike and friendly?

[Answer] Yes, I would agree with that.

[Question] Thank you, Leonid Mitrofanovich.

[Answer] Thanks.

Differences on Berlin Issue

LD042024Y Hamburg DPA in German 1900 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn--The differences between Bonn and Moscow on the Berlin question are already apparent on the first day of the visit by Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet head of state and party chief. After the first talk between Brezhnev and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, which lasted barely 90 minutes in which the Berlin topic was only briefly referred to, Brezhnev's spokesman Leonid Zamyatin and Bonn Government spokesman Klaus Boelling, in official statements, at a press briefing made the different standpoints very clear.

Zamyatin said that Bonn, in wishing to include West Berlin in the three German-Soviet agreements not yet signed, wanted to "insert something" that did not belong within the framework of the quadripartite agreement. The USSR cannot accept that. Pressure was being put on Moscow to agree to cooperate with "certain authorities" of the FRG in this city.

In a direct rejoinder, Boelling said that the Federal Government continues to adhere to the formula agreed to with Brezhnev in 1973 on the "strict observance and full implementation" of the quadripartite agreement. "The formula stands, and both elements are of equal importance," Boelling said.

Boelling said that the first talk had taken place in a pleasant, open and businesslike atmosphere. Boelling and Zamyatin said the discussion topics were bilateral questions, particularly future economic cooperation, the balancing of trade and the development of trust and understanding between the peoples of the FRG and the USSR. The guiding consideration of the first talk--attended by Foreign Ministers Andrey Gromyko and Hans-Dietrich Genscher--had been the desire on both sides to develop and deepen cooperation on the basis of the 1970 Moscow Treaty in a "long-term historical perspective." The people of both countries want to place the development of neighborly relations on foundations to make them important for future generations Boelling said.

According to Boelling, the chancellor's strongest motive for signing the 25-year economic cooperation agreement on Saturday is political. The linking of economic interests should positively influence overall political relations. The economic prosperity of one country should also be in the interests of the other.

According to Zamyatin, Brezhnev expects his talks with Schmidt to result in the opening of a new sphere of cooperation in various fields. In spite of unresolved questions, there are good prospects for cooperations. Schmidt and Genscher accepted an invitation to visit the USSR at a date still to be fixed.

Flowers Placed at Marx' House

LD041742Y Moscow TASS in English 1734 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Trier, May 4, TASS--Flowers were placed today, on the eve of Karl Marx's 160th birth anniversary, on behalf of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev at the house-museum of the founder of scientific communism.

The flowers were placed by first Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov and Minister of Civil Aviation Boris Bugayev.

Brezhnev Lays Wreath At Memorial

LD042038Y Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 4, TASS--Today Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, laid a wreath at the monument to the victims of wars and violence. The monument is erected in Hofgarten Park in the centre of Bonn.

There is an inscription on the wreath's pink band in the Russian and German languages: "To the victims of militarism and Nazism. General secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet L.I. Brezhnev."

[Hamburg DPA in German at 1751 GMT on 4 May 78 adds that Brezhnev "was accompanied by Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Ambassador Valentin Falin as he walked to the monument through lines of Bundeswehr soldiers." The report also notes that "several thousand people watched him lay the wreath. There were chants of 'freedom for all political prisoners' as well as whistles and jeering."]

Anti-Brezhnev Demonstration

LD041552Y Hamburg DPA in German 1530 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn--An estimated 1,200 people took part in a silent march and a rally in Bonn this afternoon organized by the Human Rights Society. A large turn-out of police was kept busy preventing clashes between rally participants and members of the Maoist KPD and the rightwing NPD. The rally ended without any serious incidents.

One demonstrator was temporarily detained by the police because he was distributing a leaflet--described as a "wanted poster"--whose contents insulted Brezhnev.

The expatriated Soviet Major General Petr Grigorenko demanded the release of all political prisoners and recognition of human rights in the Soviet Union. Banners carried at the rally bore inscriptions such as "Hungary 1956 Exhorts", "Brezhnev Out"and a banner carried by KPD supporters said "Brezhnev Is Following in Hitler's Footsteps".

Scheel, Brezhnev Interviewed

DW042021Y Cologne Domestic Television Service in German 2006 GMT 4 May 78 DW

[Interview by reporter Friedrich Nowottny with Federal President Walter Scheel and CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev in Augustusburg Castle in Bruehl near Bonn; questions in German followed by Russian translation; Brezhnev answers in Russian followed by translation--live]

[Text] [Question] The first day has passed. Can you tell me how the talks have begun?

[Scheel] They began in a most friendly atmosphere, and yet we could discuss concrete matters.

[Question] Mr General Secretary, the 1970 treaty was very important for you and for us. How significant is this treaty today and what bearing will the visit have on it?

[Brezhnev] A positive one.

[Question] We assume that our requests will be in accord with yours.

[Answer] That is right.

[Nowottny] Thank you.

Dinner in Brezhnev's Honor

LD042215Y Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 4, TASS--Tonight President of the Federal Republic of Germany Walter Scheel held a dinner in honour of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

Present at the dinner, held at Augustusburg Castle, were Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, deputy federal chancellor, Minister of Foreign Affairs Hans-Dietrich Genscher, other members of the Federal Government, deputies of the Bundestag, prominent leaders of political parties, prime ministers of several lands, the mayor of Bonn, prominent trade union leaders, representatives of the FRG-USSR society.

Present from the Soviet side were members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov, USSR Ministers Nikolay Patolichev, Boris Bugayev, and other officials accompanying Leonid Brezhnev.

Walter Scheel delivered a speech.

Leond Brezhnev made a reply speech.

The speeches by Walter Scheel and Leonid Brezhnev were listened to with great attention and received with applause.

The dinner passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Scheel Toast at Dinner

LD042255Y Moscow TASS in English 2224 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 4, TASS--President of the FRG Walter Scheel, speaking this evening at a dinner he gave in honour of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, welcomed cordially the distinguished guest and persons accompanying him in the Federal Republic of Germany.

It is not the first time that I have the pleasure to welcome you in Bonn, but is the first visit of the head of state of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to our country, Walter Scheel said. I regard this as an event of historic significance since our relations with your great country had the decisive significance in the bright and grim days of our history.

In the Moscow treaty, both our states confirmed in 1970 their intention to consolidate peace in Europe and throughout the world, to improve and widen cooperation. We have followed this intention. The Moscow treaty has become the basis of relations between our countries. It is supported by all political parties represented in the German Bundestag. The overwhelming majority of my compatriots regard it as the natural main element of our policy aimed at fruitful and peaceful coexistence of peoples in Europe and throughout the world.

The majority of citizens living now in your country and in our country, Walter Scheel went on, were born after the disaster of the Second World War. The experience of this generation is determined not by war but abrupt economic, technical and social changes. For this generation, the past must be not a useless burden but a warning urging to look for more encourageing roads to future.

To preserve peace is the main moral precept for all times and peoples, Walter Scheel said: At the same time, this joint vital interest of so vulnerable contemporary industrialized states in peace imparts a firm foundation to our policy.

The Moscow treaty and the treaties that we succeeded in concluding in the subsequent period with other East European countries and with the GDR, the four-power agreement on Berlin, and last, but not least, the final act signed in Helsinki constitute now the foundation of peace in Europe, the FRG president said.

Touching upon relations between the FRG and the GDR, Walter Scheel said further that of great significance in this connection is the position of Berlin. The Federal Republic of Germany hopes, he said, that the policy of both states proceeding from strict observance and complete implementation of the four-power agreement will result in removing obstacles in various spheres of our cooperation and will promote the development of our relations on the whole. Above all, we need trust. Much of what is being done with the best intentions is being interpreted incorrectly for the reason that trust is lacking.

The Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union have different political and economic systems. We cannot pass this in silence nor do we want to do so. It is the more important, therefore, that the people in our countries should come to know each other better that they should be able to form independently their own opinion about society, economy and policy of our two countries.

Our generation, whose political make-up was determined during the war and in the post war period, Walter Scheel stressed, has done in the recent years what we were obliged to do: We sought to liquidate the burden of the suffering of the past. But we must not stop at that, if we wish to live up to the expectations of our compatriots. Young people are particularly impatient. After we have laid down the foundation, they wish the edifice of East-West cooperation in Europe to grow. The goals are clear: The scopes must be different from the past. They must be based on responsibility going far beyond the limits of our own countries.

In conclusion the FRG president proposed a toast to the health of the president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the deepening and strengthening of relations between the FRG and the Soviet Union, to peace in Europe and all over the world.

Brezhnev Speaks at Dinner

LD042156Y Moscow TASS in English 2144 GMT 4 May 78 LD

["Leonid Brezhnev's speech"--TASS headline; passages in brackets are variations to speech from Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2205 GMT announcer-read apparent text]

[Text] Bonn, May 4, TASS--The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, who is on an official visit in the FRG, today spoke at a dinner held in his honour by the President of the FRG Walter Scheel. Leonid Brezhnev said:

I would like to sincerely thank our hosts for the invitation to visit the Federal Republic of Germany, for the cordiality with which we are received here, for the warm words you have said, Mr. President. [Esteemed Mr Federal President, esteemed Mr Federal Chancellor, ladies, gentlemen and comrades: I would like..."]

It is pleasant to meet again with statesmen, politicians, members of parliament and businessmen of your country. Especially those with whom eight years ago we undertook the difficult job of sharply turning relations between our countries towards mutual understanding and goodneighbourhood.

The Moscow treaty, mentioned here by Mr. Scheel, truly was an outstanding event. It made the Soviet Union and the FRG and also all the peoples of Europe richer, richer with faith in the preservation of the peaceful present and the attainability of a peaceful future.

The result of our bilateral [state] cooperation during the past years is weighty and tangible. It is in the developed political contacts, in the extensive economic ties that are steadily growing in scope; it is in the growing contacts between people.

I do not want to imply that the time has come to fold one's hands and admire the accomplishments. In its time history was not miserly in preparing problems for us to inherit. Later, they were multiplied and deepened by the policy of cold war which, fortunately, has in the main receded in to the past.

But now, too, there are enough things to worry about. Problems arise to this day. Perhaps of another type, but still they arise.

It is not for each of them that a patent medicine is within easy reach or a ready article in agreements. But it is necessary to advance all the time. We are obliged to do so by memory of what has been and by responsibility for what will be. It is from this view point that I approach our meetings which have taken place already or which will take place. I believe that our partners are similarly minded.

It is said that man gets used almost to anything. At war he gets used to danger. In good times to welfare and, while he is not sick, even to health. Peace reigns in Europe already for more than thirty years. This has never happened before. And people have begun to grow accustomed to peace, as though it is something taken for granted, as though detente has not passed through many trials.

This penetration of peace into the fabric of daily life is the best reward to all who pressed for detente without sparing their energy. But at the same time this is a warning. It would be most dangerous to become composed, to let events develop by themselves. I have already said and repeat again with full force of conviction: It is necessary to struggle for peace, detente should be consistently deepened and made irreversible. In this question there should be no observers on the sidelines and no dependents. It equally concerns all.

Peace will truly become firm when it becomes the main goal and criterion of the policy of all states, when not fear of the neighbour but a conscious striving to honestly cooperate with one another, to reach agreement without detriment to anybody's security will determine the approach of governments to arising problems. Fear is a poor adviser and suspiciousness is no service to peace.

We know well that in the FRG, just as in other Western countries, millions of people, including many prominent statesmen and politicians, sincerely want lasting peace and good cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community.

But we also know that in the West in general, and also in your country, there are opponents of detente. Some of them believe that apprehensions and animosity to the Soviet Union and to other socialist countries should be constantly present in the policy of their states, even if this increased the risk of a new war. Others, perhaps, are simply deluded, accepting at face value the words of those who ascribe to the Soviet Union evil intentions that are alien to it.

The most unpassable bog is the bog of prejudices. The most difficult barrier is the barrier of mistrust. Should we hurdle it, mankind will acquire unprecedented forces and means for the establishment of a peace reliable as never in the past.

Mistrust nourishes such a horrendous creation of present-day international life as the race in the manufacture of means for the mass annihilation of people. By its essence this race is senseless. It is impossible to win this race. But it is easy to bring about mankind's destruction. It is time to stop.

So let us stop. Let us no longer build up armaments. Let us start real steps to reduce armed forces and armaments both on a world scale and in Europe, in particular in central Europe. Let us reach agreement on the renunciation of the production and deployment of new systems of weapons of mass annihiliation. By way of binding mutual agreement let us preclude the appearance of the neutron weapon, which it is intended to present to the peoples of our continent as an ominous gift of the Danai. [reference to legendary Trojan Horse]

The Soviet Union has just made a set of proposals on the full ending of the further quantitative and qualitative growth of the armaments and armed forces of states possessing a big military potential. We are convinced that no task is more ripe and urgent now than that of blocking all channels of the arms race, both nuclear and conventional. We call on all states, on all people of peace and goodwill, including, of course, our esteemed partners and friends in the Federal Republic of Germany to cooperate in the solution of this task.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen,

Judging by our first conversations in Bonn it can be said, I believe, with a justified share of optimism that the meetings of the leaders of the two countries will serve in good stead our peoples, the cause of strengthening peace and open additional spheres for the joint application of energy, will put into circulation new, yet untapped reserves and possibilities.

My country is vast. It spreads over two continents. It is populated by dozens of nations and peoples forming a single, close-knit family. This is a peaceful, industrious people, lavishly endowed with talents and a kind soul. This people does not covet what belongs to others. Its intentions are noble. It is ready to live in peace and accord with all peoples, including with your people.

Leonid Brezhnev wished the citizens of the FRG well-being and flourishing, toasted the spirit of mutual respect and good-neighbourhood between the Soviet Union and the FRG, the health of the statesmen of the FRG and all those present at the dinner.

[Allow me on this spring day in May to wish the citizens of your country well-being and prosperity. Allow me to propose a toast to the spirit of mutual respect and neighborliness between our countries and to the health of the federal president and Mrs Scheel, to the health of the federal chancellor and Mrs Schmidt and to the health of all those present."]

Second Round Talks Begin

LD0509144Y Hamburg DPA in German 1106 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Bonn--Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Soviet head of state and party Leonid Brezhnev met for a second political talk today. The exchange of views took place at Gymnich Castle, near Bonn, where Brezhnev is staying during his official visit.

The principal subjects were thought to be the continuation of East-West detente, disarmament and arms control, the Berlin question and long-term economic cooperation.

While Schmidt and Brezhnev were meeting today, the two foreign ministers, Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Andrey Gromyko, met to discuss international issues in the Federal Government's guest house on the Venusberg.

Federal Economics Minister Otto Graf Lambsdorff discussed important economic components of the Brezhnev visit with Deputy Premier Nikolay Tikhonov and Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Patolichev. According to reliable information this meeting took place on the basis of the long-term economic cooperation sought by both sides. A cooperation agreement valid for 25 years is due to be signed tomorrow.

DKP Celebrates Visit

LD042314Y Moscow TASS in English 2217 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Cologne, May 4, TASS--TASS correspondents Valeriy Glukhov and Mikhail Podvigin report:

"For the sake of our peoples, for peace and friendship,"--under this slogan a mass meeting of the German Communist Party was held in Cologne, one of the biggest industrial centres of the Rhine-Ruhr region. It was devoted to the visit to the FRG by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev. Taking part in the meeting were workers, trade union activists, representatives of democratic organizations, of young workers and students.

Together with the entire working people of the FRG, the communists welcome the visit to our country by Leonid Brezhnev, Herbert Mies, the chairman of the German Communist Party said in his speech at the meeting. We say to him wholeheartedly: "welcome," "friendship."

Leonid Brezhnev's visit to the FRG is of great importance for continuation of the policy of detente, for further development of long-term cooperation between both countries. It will serve to the benefit of the peoples of the FRG and the Soviet Union and will promote the consolidation of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Summing up the results of the five years that have passed since Leonid Brezhnev's first visit to the FRG, we can say that relations between our countries were developing on the basis of mutual advantage, the speaker said. The present visit opens new favourable prospects in this sphere. He emphasized great importance of the Soviet Union's struggle for disarmament, of its constructive proposals in this sphere. The FRG working people, he said, declare resolutely against the plans for production of neutron weapons and their deployment in the West German territory. Herbert Mies pointed to strong fraternal relations between the German Communist Party and the CPSU.

UK MARSHAL'S REMARKS IN PRC PROMPT MORE CRITICISM

Remarks 'Openly Provocative'

LD041340Y Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 4, TASS--The TASS political commentator, Yevgeniy Babenko, writes: The provocative pronouncements of the chief of Britain's Defence Staff, Air Marshal Neil Cameron, in Peking were regarded by the London press as a call for setting up a kind of "Anglo-Chinese alliance" spearheaded against the USSR. Even such a newspaper as THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, which in no way could be suspected of sympathies for the Soviet Union, expressed bewilderment on this score. It recalled that in the period of most acute crises between the East and the West, London hitherto studiously tried to avoid formulations like those used by Cameron in Peking.

At the request of a large group of Labour MPs, an emergency debate was held in the House of Commons and the question of the immediate retirement of the chief of Defence Staff was raised. Pointing to the threat of Cameron's militaristic calls to the cause of peace, Frank Allaun, the vice-chairman of the National Executive of the Labour Party, rightly pointed out that his provocative bellicose prattle not only demonstrated utter contempt for the process of international detente, but, essentially, increased the threat of outbreak of a nuclear conflict.

The Anglo-Soviet Friendship Society qualified Cameron's Peking speech as obvious warmongering.

What was the reaction of official London circles to this subversion against detente and disarmament, against better Soviet-British relations?

London tried to smooth over the impressions made by Neil Cameron's prattling. To smooth over, but not to disavow their essence, it is true, as modest criticism (or self-criticism?) London acknowledged that the marshal could have formulated some of his pronouncements differently. The British authorities confined themselves to this.

One cannot help asking the question: Did not Cameron in a soldier's manner bluntly state what Downing Street really thinks?

Cameron's dirty plans are arousing vigorous protests both in Britain and far beyond its boundaries. Not only the form and tune are sharply criticised, but, above all, the very meaning of Cameron's exercises in militaristic verbiage.

Neil Cameron and those who subscribe to his thoughts, seek to poison the international atmosphere, to undermine the foundation of Soviet-British relations. In this meaning, the irresponsibility of the touring marshal from the banks of the Thames is openly provocative.

Owen, Others on Statements

LD041605Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Ovchinnikov report: "A Malicious Attack"]

[Text] London, 2 May--A criminal attack on the cause of detente and disarmament; a crying example of malicious, unbridled and irresponsible anti-Sovietism--that is how the peace-loving British public regards the inflammatory speech of N. Cameron, chief of the British Defense Staff, in Peking.

"The words of the chief of the British Defense Staff are harmful from the diplomatic point of view and inappropriate from the military point of view," THE DAILY MIRROR notes. The Anglo-Soviet Friendship Society has published a statement saying: "We call on all supporters of peace, irrespective of their political views, and in particular the whole British workers' movement, to condemn the criminal attack on detente made by N. Cameron."

British Foreign Secretary D. Owen said in connection with Cameron's statement: "Cameron's visit must be seen in the context of a deliberate attempt to improve relations with China, and not as a deliberate and provocative step to the detriment of our relations with the Soviet Union."

MP's Call for Resignation

LD051150Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0846 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] London--Over 60 members of the British Parliament's House of Commons have signed a draft motion calling for the immediate resignation of Marshal of the Air Force N. Cameron, chief of Britain's Defense Staff. They are protesting against the blatantly provocative and inciting demarche by N. Cameron who, while on a visit to Peking, appealed for the efforts of the NATO military and China to be united in opposition to the mythical "Soviet threat." We resolutely condemn the statements of the chief of the Defense Staff, which threaten the process of detente and progress on the road to disarmament, the draft motion stresses.

PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES CPSU CC SECRETARY DOLGIKH

LD0421O4Y Moscow TASS in English 2054 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, May 4, TASS--Today Vladimir Dolgikh, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met Mario Soares, prime minister of Portugal, general secretary of the Socialist Party. Matters of mutual interest were discussed during the conversation.

Also today Vladimir Dolgikh called on Vasco da Gama Fernandes, president of the republic's Assembly. Present at the meeting were Vladimir Klyuyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, as well as Arnold Kalinin, the ambassador of the USSR to Portugal.

PORTUGUESE DELEGATION SIGNS COMMUNIQUE ON MOSCOW VISIT

LD0415l0Y Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 4, TASS--The ncesssity to further widen the struggle of peace forces for an end to the arms race, for disarmament and detente was emphasized in the joint Soviet-Portuguese communique signed here today.

The communique was signed by Georgiy Zhukov, one of the leaders of the Soviet Peace Committee, and by Costa Gomes, head of the Portuguese Council for Peace and Cooperation.

During the Portuguese delegation's visit, the sides considered topical problems of the peace movement including prospects for stronger security and development of cooperation in Europe. The importance of the U.N. General Assembly's forthcoming special session on disarmament was noted. An opinion was expressed that it is essential to press for a comprehensive ban on the development and production of new types and new systems of weapons of mass destruction, the neutron bomb, in the first place.

The Portuguese Council for Peace and Cooperation, the communique points out, regarded approvingly the USSR's latest proposals aimed at achieving general and complete disarmament, proposals which Leonid Brezhnev set out at the 18th Congress of the Soviet Young Communist League recently.

The Soviet side noted the effectiveness of the Portuguese peace movement in the collection of signatures to the new Stockholm appeal, and in the international campaign against the neutron bomb.

The communique notes the successes achieved in the implementation of the final act of the Helsinki conference and emphasizes that relations between European countries with different socioeconomic systems will continue to widen on this basis.

It was pointed out that the overthrow of the fascist regime in Portugal on April 25, 1974, opened the way for the deepening and development of Soviet-Portuguese relations. Over the period that has passed since, a good basis has been laid for the fruitful development of versatile cooperation between the two countries.

PCI DISCUSSES MORO KIDNAPING AT LEADERSHIP MEETING

LD0422S4Y Moscow TASS in English 2233 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Rome, May 4, TASS--The questions of the political situation in Italy connected with the kidnapping of Aldo Moro, the former chairman of the Council of Ministers of Italy, chairman of the National Council of the ruling Christian Democratic Party, were discussed today at the meeting of the leadership of the Italian Communist Party.

A communique circulated after the meeting stresses that the leadership of the Italian Communist Party reaffirms the party's allegiance to a firm democratic line that reflects the position of the overwhelming majority of the public. The statement says that any concession to the criminals' blackmail can lead to horrible consequences for democratic life of the country, for safety of all citizens. The document emphasises the importance of observing the laws and the constitution, the principle of citizens' equality before law and complete respect of sovereignty of the democratic state. Unity of all democratic and popular forces is needed for conducting this course.

BRIEFS

CPSU DELEGATION TO BERLIN--TASS--A CPSU delegation comprising N.V. Merenishchev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and second secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee (head of the delegation): G.N. Andreyev, sector chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Section; and L.N. Grigoryev, responsible worker of the CPSU Central Committee International Section, left for West Berlin on 29 April at the invitation of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin Board. The delegation will take part in May Day celebrations held by the West Berlin communists. [Text] [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 78 p 4 LD]

FRG PLANT CONTRACT--TASS--On 28 April, a contract was signed in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade between the all-union "Tekhmashimport" association and the West German firm Krupp-Koppers Gmbh providing for cooperation in installing in Mogilev, on a barter basis, a plant for the production of chemical raw material for the production of "lavsan" synthetic textiles. The capacity of the enterprise will be 120,000 tons a year. The signing of the contract was attended by N.S. Patolichev, USSR foreign trade minister, and L.A. Kostandov, USSR minister of the chemical industry. [Text] [Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD]

OPEC MINISTERS MAY BE CONSIDERING DOLLAR DEPRECIATION

LD041448Y Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 4, TASS--The TASS commentator, Artem Melikyan, reports: An official conference of oil industry ministers of OPEC countries was opened today in the health resort of At-Ta'if in Saudi Arabia. In the consensus of opinion, the depreciation of the American currency and problems connected with this will be in the focus of attention of the conference. The unceasing decline in the dollar exchange rate is arousing serious anxiety in many Middle Eastern capitals. This is explained by the fact that the American currency is for oil exporting countries the main unit of account in the sale of oil on world markets. This means that depreciation of the dollar automatically leads to a substantial reduction in the real incomes of those states. It has been estimated that the 13 member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have already lost over 14,000 million dollars from the drop in the exchange rate of the American currency.

Some OPEC countries (Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Iran and others) are known to have suggested that specific steps be taken to compensate for these currency losses and to protect their interests. Some propose that crude oil prices be raised from the second half of this year; others suggest the immediate abandonment of the dollar as basic currency in oil accounts and fixing the oil price in future on the basis of OPEC reference currency or in so-called special drawing rights of the International Monetary Fund. There are indications that even Saudi Arabia, which maintains "special relations" with the United States, began displaying symptoms of anxiety in connection with the depreciation of the dollar and hinting in public on the expediency of revising the practice of oil accounts now operating.

These moods of Persian Gulf countries aroused unconcealed anxiety in Washington. Even if the price of oil was frozen at the present level, the abolition of the privileges of the dollar would still mean for the United States essentially bigger payments for imported oil and would lead to a sharp increase in the country's trade balance deficit, which is already at record level. This is precisely why the United States is exerting active back-stage efforts to prevent modifications in the practice of oil accounts which is favourable for it. Though the At-Ta'if meeting does not aim at adopting final decision, its recommendations will, undoubtedly, be of great importance for the OPEC conference in Geneva in mid-June.

SAUDI PREPARATIONS AIMED AGAINST PROGRESSIVE COUNTRIES

LD041331Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[TASS correspondent G. Tsaritsyn dispatch: "The 'Lion' Sharpens His Teeth"]

[Text] New York, 28 April--The United States is speeding the reequipping and strengthening of the Armed Forces of Saudi Arabia, which is regarded by Washington as a reliable champion of U.S. policy in the Near East and eastern Africa.

Modern aircraft, ships, tanks, missiles and other combat equipment is flowing into Saudi Arabia from the United States in a continuous stream. Last year Riyadh concluded contracts for the purchase of $2.5 billion worth of U.S. arms. Thus Saudi Arabia's total military purchases in the United States over the last 3 years alone amount to $5.78 billion.

However, even this enormous figure does not reflect the whole real picture of the country's militarization, which is being carried out with the help of the West. Thus, Riyadh has concluded contracts for the purchase of equipment and for the necessary technical assistance to be provided by the United States, Britain and France in building an impressive military-industrial complex for the production of modern surface-to-surface missiles and electronic military equipment. The cost of this project, codenamed "Al-Asad" ("Lion"), is assessed at $10 billion.

An engineering unit of the U.S. Army has been directly drawn into implementation of another $18 billion project that provides for the building of three military bases--the largest in the Near East--on the territory of Saudi Arabia: at Al-Batin in the southeast [as published] near the border with Iraq, at Tabuk in the northwest and at Khamis Mushayt, near the Red Sea on the border with South Yemen.

According to assessments made by the U.S. press, there are now more than 19,000 Americans in Saudi Arabia taking a most direct part in the building of military installations and training the personnel of the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces in mastering U.S. combat equipment.

In the opinion of political commentators, all these military preparations by the Saudi regime are primarily aimed against progressive countries. As the New York TIMES noted, Riyadh regards its neighbors--Iraq and South Yemen--as potential adversaries. It is therefore not fortuitous that the most intensive military construction is being carried out in the north and northeast of the country on the border with these states [sentence as published]. The military units and subunits stationed there are being rearmed and strengthened on a priority basis.

'ARAFAT DEMAND FOR SOVIET-U.S. MIDEAST GUARANTEES CITED

ID041447Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Supporting the Aggressor"]

[Text] New York, 2 May--Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has expressed regret in connection with the U.S. departure from the principles enshrined in the Soviet-American statement on the Near East published last October. In an interview with a New York TIMES correspondent, he indicated that this statement could become a "lasting basis for a real settlement" in the Near East. Y. 'Arafat noted that the Near East problem can only be resolved if the Soviet Union and the United States offer guarantees of existence both to Israel and to a Palestinian state.

JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER BACKS SOVIET-AMERICAN STATEMENT

LD041234Y Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Amman, May 4, TASS--The joint Soviet-American statement on the Middle East, issued in October last, furnishes a sound foundation for a just Middle East settlement, said M. Badran, Jordan's prime minister, at a meeting with B. Chnoupek, foreign minister of the CSSR, who is on an official visit here. He pointed out that convocation of the Geneva peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of all concerned sides, including the USSR and the USA, was the only way out of the present stagnation in the process of searching for peace in the Middle East.

The prime minister pointed out that Jordan was in favour of the complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories, the safeguarding of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and to setting up an independent state. An [word indistinct] those principles, Badran said, will prevent the establishment of a lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

He denounced the aggressive policy of Israel which leaves no room for doubt that Tel Aviv does not want peace, strives for expansion and the maintenance of its control over the seized Arab territories.

BRITISH PAPERS REPORT DETERIORATION OF EGYPTIAN SITUATION

LD042154Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 4 May 78 LD

["Aggravating Crisis"--TASS headline]

[Text] London, May 4, TASS--Under the title "As-Sadat Slipping" the newspaper SUNDAY TIMES publishes an article devoted to the situation in Egypt.

The newspaper says that large sections of the Egyptian society are suffering the combined ill-effect of the "open door" economic policy--the abolition of the price control mechanism built up during the 'Abd an-Nasir era. The annual rate of inflation is 20-30 percent. The foreign capital drawn into the country's economy goes not into industry, but into banking and real estate, construction of hotels and luxury flats. The person who is finally responsible for this state of affairs is As-Sadat himself, the SUNDAY TIMES stresses.

The extent of opposition to the present regime cannot be assessed accurately now because "freedoms" of expression and assembly are tightly controlled, and information on the real mood of the people systematically manipulated by the government. Every day the newspapers, radio and television receive a printed circular spelling out the things that should be mentioned, and those that should not be mentioned, the SUNDAY TIMES says. As-Sadat regards as one of the main instruments for backing up his slipping positions the tightening of his security system. The past few weeks have also seen the intelligence personnel take such actions as tapping telephones, combing wastepaper baskets of suspected "radical" academics and trade unionists.

In the opinion of another British newspaper THE TIMES the steadily deteriorating domestic situation in Egypt has plunged the As-Sadat regime into the deepest crisis after the anti-government demonstrations last January. The day-to-day life of the Egyptians since then has not changed for the better. The newspaper says that on the contrary the lot of the rank-and-file Egyptians has worsened considerably.

COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT OF MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT URGED

LD042047Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Article by Vladimir Kudryavtsev, "prominent Soviet journalist" and deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries; in Russian fading into Arabic--recorded]

[Text] The tragedy of the Palestinian people, who have been deprived of their homeland, has become a burden weighing heavily on the conscience of all mankind.

Mankind cannot afford to be indifferent to the disgrace of the 20th century--that is, to thepolicy of mass annihilation the Israeli Zionists are practising, with the encouragement of U.S. ruling circles, toward the Palestinian Arab people. We should bear in mind that the mass-annihilation policy was drawn up not long ago at the headquarters of the official governmental policy of Israel--to be precise, when, on the eve of fresh aggression against Lebanon, the Knesset called for the physical annihilation of those involved in the Palestinian resistance movement.

It must be pointed out that this aggression against Lebanon had as a goal not only annihilation of Palestinians living in Lebanon, but also occupation of land, in accordance with the Cairo agreement concluded between Beirut and the PLO. Assisting in the implementations of this task is official Washington, which stated, through President Carter, that it was not an advocate of the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state, nor would it ever work to this end. In addition to this Carter, in that statement, crossed out the question of insuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, which was contained in the Soviet-U.S. joint statement on the Middle East.

His recent statements indicate that the U.S. President, together with the Israeli aggressors, is endeavoring to erase from the Middle East map anything apt to serve as a reminder of the existence of the Palestinian Arab people. Israel is changing the name of the West Bank--which is supposed to be annexed to the independent Palestinian state--into Judia and Samaria, while Carter goes on to say that there could be no talk about Israel's withdrawal from these territories. It is the duty of progressive mankind to halt this flagrant violation of the rights of an entire people by hypocrites trying to hide behind the mask of human rights advocates.

The moral aspect of the Palestine issue is quite sufficient reason to return the homeland to the Palestinian Arab people and to realize their legitimate national rights, including the right to set up an independent state and return to their homes. But if we are to tackle the issue from the political aspect, facts have clearly shown that it is not possible to achieve a just settlement of the Middle East crisis unless the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to set up their independent state, are insured.

The Palestinian issue is the pivot of the situation in the Middle East, bearing in mind that the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people for peace in the Middle East is the more righteous struggle. The Palestinian Arab people are concerned, more than anybody else, with complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories. This is because a large portion of this must be annexed to the territory of the Palestinian state. The Palestinian Arab people are concerned, more than anybody else, with the removal of the aftermath of the 1967 Israeli aggression. It follows that the Palestinian Arab people are objectively struggling not for their national interests but also for the interests of all Arab peoples.

The Israeli aggression has turned the Middle East into a dangerous hotbed of war; therefore, the heroic struggle of the Palestinian Arab people, who are struggling for eradication of the aftermath of the Israeli aggression, also aims at liquidating the danger of war, a matter which also concerns the peoples of Africa, the Mediterranean basin and Europe. By supporting the just struggle of the Palestinian Arab people, progressive forces in the Arab East especially as well as those in Africa and Europe will be helping themselves by removing the dangerous hotbed of war in the Middle East, as otherwise the flames of war could extend from the Middle East to other regions of the world. This struggle must be supported daily.

In order to bring about a just, peaceful settlement in the Middle East, it is necessary that the Palestinian issue be resolved in the interest of the Palestinian Arab people. Resolving the Palestinian issue cannot be achieved except within the framework of a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict as a whole.

Consequently, it is this which is prompting imperialists, Zionists and internal Arab reaction to oppose a just solution of the Palestinian issue. These forces do not want a just settlement; they seek to impose neocolonialist slavery on the Arab peoples and states. In order to return this people to their homeland, it is necessary to undergo a firm struggle against the plans of imperialism, Zionism and Arab internal reaction toward the Middle East.

The Soviet people remain a sincere friend and a loyal ally of the Palestinian Arab people, engaged on the side of this people in a righteous and principled struggle for the freedom, independence and social progress of all Arab peoples.

LEBANESE CONSERVATIVES' INTENTIONS ALARM PROGRESSIVES

LD041518Y Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 4, TASS--A meeting of the government has been held here under the chairmanship of the Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis. This government has resigned two weeks ago but continues to discharge its functions until a new cabinet is formed. Its members discussed the internal political situation, questions of security and certain other problems.

The situation in the Lebanon continues to aggravate due to the protracted government crisis and the continuing Israeli occupation of the south Lebanese territories. The attempts of the newly appointed Prime Minister Salim al-Huss to form a cabinet, which would meet the requirements of the current period, proved futile due to the refusal of the conservative forces to include in the government representatives of the national-progressive forces. The "Lebanese front", which includes conservative and religious groups, stubbornly insists that a cabinet should be formed of members of the House of Representatives, where the progressive and left-wing forces have an unproportionally small number of votes. Such intentions arouse legitimate alarm and anxiety of the progressive national parties and organisations, which come out for the formation of a supreme executive organ on the basis of inclusion in it of representatives of all the political circles on an equal footing.

ISRAELI MOVE INTO LEBANON GENERATES WHOLE SET OF PROBLEM

LD041645Y Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 4, TASS--The occupation of southern Lebanon and Israel's obvious reluctance to fulfil the resolution of the United Nations Security Council demanding the unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops have a negative effect on the political situation in the country. In the opinion of local observers the Israeli aggression against Lebanon has generated a whole set of problems that can be resolved only after the withdrawal of the occupation forces from the territory of that sovereign state.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the "Lebanese front", which unites in its ranks Lebanese conservative parties and organizations, has considerably intensified its campaign of attacks against the national patriotic forces of the country and the Palestine resistance movement. In an attempt to whitewash the Israeli aggressor it is trying to put the entire blame for the sufferings and calamities of the Lebanese people on the true patriots of the country.

The position of the sides in respect of the Israeli aggression reveals the true countenance of the political groupings in the country in the question of the normalization of the situation, notes the progressive Beirut press. The wishes of the leaders of the Lebanese conservative forces are reflected in the statement by the Israeli Foreign Ministry that the occupation forces will stay in southern Lebanon for a lengthy period of time. More than that, Tel Aviv does not rule out the possibility of launching a new large-scale aggression against the sovereign state, reports the Israeli newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT. The activities of the occupationists in the southern areas of the country patently show that Israel is creating a powerful military beachhead in the captured territories, writes the Lebanese newspaper AN-NIDA'. Israeli troops are razing crops and felling whole forests around south Lebanese villages that have been converted into strongholds. Israeli patrols penetrate deep into the country where they conduct searches and make arrests. More than 120,000 Lebanese refugees cannot return to their homes because the occupationists do not let them return under the threat of repressions. The events in the south of Lebanon confirm again that it is necessary to concentrate all efforts on the attainment of the speediest withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied Lebanese territories in accordance with resolution Number 245 of the United Nations Security Council, it was stated by Lebanon's Prime Minister Salim al-Huss.

ISRAELI DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST ANNEXATIONIST POLICY

LD041254Y Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Rome, May 4, TASS--Watchwords of [words indistinct] rights of the working people and against the aggressive policy of the Begin government dominated May Day in Israel. About 250,000 workers, employees and students took part in the May Day demonstration in Tel Aviv. Notwithstanding attempts by the leadership of the Histadput, the general federation of labour in Israel, to deprive the demonstration of any political meaning, it turned into a tempestuous manifestation of protest against the annexionist policy of the ruling quarters.

Members of the Communist Party of Israel, the Communist Youth League and the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality marched in the demonstration carrying flags and streamers. They called for an end to the illegal occupation of the Arab lands, for recognition of the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine and for renunciation of a policy fraught with the danger of another war. Over 7,000 people took part in a mass meeting in the town of Nazareth. M. Vilner, the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, said that the Arab people of Palestine must settle their own destinies without any outside pressure. The Mayor of Nazareth, T. Zaiad, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, also addressed the meeting. He condemned the desire of the United States to impose such a "settlement of the Middle East conflict upon the Arabs, which [words indistinct] run counter to their interests. The Democratic Front for Peace and Equality also organised demonstrations in Kfar-Yasin, Taibe and other populated centres.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH JORDAN--Amman, April 30, TASS--Strengthening the power-generating base is one of the most important tasks under Jordan's five-year economic development plan for 1976-1980. The plan provides for the building of a number of new power stations and expanding the capacities of operating hydro- and thermal power plants. Soviet power engineers will give Jordan technical assistance in implementing its electrification programme. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 30 Apr 78 LD]

ANGOLAN RADIO CITED ON SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK

LD050700Y Moscow TASS in English 0652 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, May 5, TASS--The South African military has committed a new armed aggression against Angola, says a statement of the Defence Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola, broadcast by the national radio. Having violated Angola's air space, warplanes of the Republic of South Africa attacked the settlement of Cassinga, 250 kilometres from the frontier with Namibia, and also the nearby camp of Namibian refugees. A landing force was parachuted after the bombing in that area.

PRETORIA SPEEDS PREPARATIONS FOR NUCLEAR TEST

LD042222Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1330 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] London--The Government of the Republic of South Africa is speeding up preparations for testing a nuclear weapon. As is clear from a report by the South African newspaper RAND DAILY MAIL, it is intended to explode the first atomic bomb at a range in the Kalahari desert.

A decisive role in the creation of a military-industrial complex in the Republic of South Africa, capable of producing an atomic weapon, has been played by U.S., British, French and West German monopolies, who for a long time passed on nuclear technology and the necessary equipment to the Pretoria regime, with the knowledge of their governments.

"For our progress in the creation of a nuclear industry," A. Roux, president of the South African atomic energy board, said, "we are indebted to the technological and technical help of the United States. Other NATO nuclear powers have contributed to the training of scientists and engineering technical cadres for our atomic industry."

A special role in increasing the Republic of South Africa's military potential and in preparing creation of mass annihilation weapons is played by Israel, which gives Pretoria the appropriate technology in exchange for strategic raw material. Major FRG concerns gave assistance in the construction of a plant for enriching uranium in the Republic of South Africa. The close cooperation of the NATO member states and other countries with the apartheid regime in creating a nuclear potential arouses serious alarm in the African public. Atomic weapons in the hands of the racialists, as the OAU has stressed, represents a threat to the peace and security of the peoples of the continent.

SMITH TRYING TO DISARM PATRIOTIC FRONT BY LEGALIZATION

LD050222Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The ban on activities by national liberation organizations united within the framework of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe has been rescinded in Rhodesia.

This has been announced in Salisbury by the so-called Executive Council, which was set up in the agreement on an internal settlement in Rhodesia and is composed of the racists' ringleader, Smith, and African puppet figures. At the same time Smith and his lieutenants have been calling upon the patriots to lay down their arms.

Our observer writes that Western bourgeois propaganda has been trying to present this step as a positive initiative, supposedly dictated by the striving for tranquillity and peace in the country, where for several years an armed national liberation struggle has been in progres.

However it would be naive to assume that the Rhodesian racists, who have been systematically and mercilessly destroying whole African settlements both in Rhodesia and in neighboring countries, have suddenly been struck with concern for peace and an end to the bloodshed. Their aim is quite different. Having failed to gain victory over the Zimbabwe patriots on the battlefield they are now trying by every conceivable political artifice to disarm them and to preserve the dominance of the white minority. This was stated quite unambiguously by Smith himself last year when he was just starting his talks with puppets about an internal settlement.

Although the agreement with venal African so-called politicians was signed a long time ago, the desired settlement in Rhodesia--that is, an end to the partisan war--has not been achieved. On the contrary, the partisan war has become even more intense and now includes over two-thirds of the country. Men fighting under the banners of the Patriotic Front are more and more frequently waging combat operations in the immediate vicinity of Salisbury. In addition, there is another factor of no less importance for the Salisbury regime. This is the question of international recognition and the removal of the embargo on links with Rhodesia which was declared by the UN Security Council in 1966. The internal settlement has not justified itself in this respect either. The Security Council has rejected it as unacceptable and illegal, and it has also emphasized that the Rhodesian question cannot be solved without participation of the Patriotic Front. For this reason Smith and his accomplices are hoping that by announcing legalization of the organizations making up the Patriotic Front they will persuade them to participate in the internal settlement. However the leadership of the front has resolutely rejected these clearly provocative proposals and confirmed the intention of Zimbabwe patriots to continue the armed struggle until total elimination of the illegal regime in Rhodesia.

MENGISTU: ETHIOPIANS FACE DIFFICULT RECONSTRUCTION TASK

LD031313Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, 1 May TASS--The people of Ethiopia are greeting 1 May, international working people's solidarity day, in an atmosphere of general labor upsurge and revolutionary enthusiasm, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, stated at a mass meeting here today. In the 4 years since the victory of the national democratic revolution, which proclaimed the creation of a society of social justice and equality, unity has grown immeasurably stronger and there has been an increase in the political awareness of the working people, who are at the basis of the implementation of the planned program of socioeconomic transformations. Thanks to this, the Ethiopian people have sustained a victory over international imperialism and reaction, which unleashed open aggression against the country and also over the forces of internal counterrevolution. Evidence of the growing prestige of the Ethiopian revolution is provided by the decisive support given to it by all the world's progressive forces, primarily the Soviet Union, Cuba and other states.

However, a long and tenacious struggle still lies ahead, Mengistu Haile Mariam stressed. After repelling foreign intervention, the working people are faced with a no less difficult and crucial task--healing the wounds of war, restoring the damaged economy and assisting the population who suffer d.

In the north of the country imperialists and reactionary Arab regimes are not giving up their attempts to destroy the Ethiopian revolution, giving military and financial support to separatist groupings.

Our struggle, Mengistu Haile Mariam indicated, is an integral part of the world revolutionary process. The broad development of the creative activeness and political awareness of the masses, the strengthening of the leading role of the proletariat, and the creation of a Marxist-Leninist party are the important conditions for the progressive movement of the Ethiopian revolution.

PEASANTS' UNION HELPS DEFEND ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION

LD050835Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 3 May 78 p 3 LD

[S. Pomerantsev article: "The Prop of the People's Power"]

[Text] The constituent congress of the All-Ethiopian Peasants' Union has taken place in Addis Ababa. The union unites more than 25,000 peasant associations--organs of revolutionary power in rural Ethiopia.

The creation of the All-Ethiopian Peasants' Union is convincing evidence of the growing role of the country's peasant masses in the process of social and democratic transformations. The awakening of the 25 million-strong peasantry became possible thanks to the implementation in socialist Ethiopia of one of the most revolutionary agrarian reforms in the history of Africa.

Three years ago the military government adopted a decree on nationalization of land. The land tenure system, peasants' dues and feudal taxes vanished into the past. On the nationalized lands--the former estates of the local nobility and foreign companies--state farms have been created.

Millions of rural dwellers have joined the peasants' associations, which have become the prop of the people's power in the distribution of land and in resolving administrative questions. Many peasant associations have been transformed into agricultural cooperatives. Detachments of the people's militia are attached to associations. In the struggle against foreign and internal reaction the Ethiopian peasantry gives active support to the people's power.

The Ethiopian revolution still has many enemies who dream of reversing the course of progressive transformations. In order to defend and preserve the gains achieved, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia, stressed during his recent visit to Cuba, the broad masses of the people of the country are strengthening their organizational structure, improving combat training and raising the level of political awareness. These goals are served by the preparatory work now being carried out in the country in forming a party of the working class and by the creation of the All-Ethiopian Peasants' Union.

FRELIMO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, REOPENING OF FACTORIES LINKED

LD051008Y Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 1700 GMT 3 May 78 LD

[Aleksandr Fedorov commentary]

[Text] In the People's Republic of Mozambique the campaign to admit new members to the ranks of FRELIMO continues. This campaign, writes our observer, Aleksandr Fedorov, is regarded in Mozambique as an important part of the process which will transform FRELIMO into a true vanguard party of the workers.

In factories and shops, in villages and in military units, hundreds of grassroots organizations have been set up recently. This year, wrote the magazine TEMPO, proclaimed in Mozambique as the year of party construction, they will play an important role in the strengthening of the FRELIMO organization and in the consolidation of its ideological roots based on Marxism-Leninism and scientific socialism.

The thousands of vanguard representatives of the working class, of the working peasants, and of the intellectuals, who swell the vanguard ranks of the Mozambique people, will be a secure support for the people's regime. The growing political awareness of the workers, the increase of FRELIMO's ranks are already giving results. In Maputo, almost all factories and firms abandoned by their former owners are working once again. The state firms in the south of the country--namely, the largest rice production firm, the Limpopo state firm--supply the population of the capital and of other cities with vegetables and fruit. A network of people's stores has been set up and works very well. It supplies the people of cities and villages with the basic necessities, such as clothing, sugar, soap, salt, and matches.

The successes of the young republic could be even greater, were it not for the aggressive activities of the racists and the undermining actions of the internal enemies.

The strengthening of the FRELIMO is a guarantee of the efficient solution of the difficulties the Mozambique people now face.

AFRICAN REVOLUTIONARY DEMOCRATIC PARTIES' ROLE EXPLORED

LD032226Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 27 Apr 78 LD

[Text] And now a commentary by Aleksandr Fedorov on the role African revolutionary democratic parties play in government. The conclusions are based mainly on analysis of the Congo, Guinea and Benin.

Revolutionary democratic parties play the leading role in the governments of nearly all the African countries with a socialist orientation. This is because noncapitalist development cannot be spontaneous. It requires political and economic plans to put society on new and progressive foundations and to keep the working people mobilized for this course. This can only be accomplished by a party armed with revolutionary theory and a clear understanding of its aims. Such parties in Africa are the Congolese Party of Labor, the Party of the People's Revolution in Benin, the Democratic Party of Guinea, and the ruling parties of Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique and a few other countries in the continent.

In a number of countries such as in the Congo and Benin the party's leading role in the government is picked up in the constitution. In Tanzania the charter of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi ruling party is attached to the constitution and is an integral part of it. In accordance with revolutionary democratic concepts a leading party is the country's highest political power. In this capacity the African revolutionary democratic parties are in leadership throughout the political system, including the state apparatus. For this purpose special commissions or departments are set up within the framework of higher party bodies, that is, central committees. These special committees take up problems of the economy, foreign relations, public education, the army, mass organizations and a number of other questions.

The revolutionary democratic parties guide the activities of economic, administrative and government bodies through the party members and party organizations at ministries and other offices, as well as the places of work. For example one of the main activities of the Congolese Party of Labor, the Democratic Party of Guinea and other revolutionary democratic parties is the drafting of directives that form the basis for social and economic development plans drawn up by the appropriate government bodies. These directives as well as the plans are widely discussed in the press and at [words indistinct]. This was how the Guinean people adopted their first five-year plan from 1974 to 1978, and the Congolese people approved their three-year plan from 1975 to 1977.

From the first days in power the people's democrats had to solve one of the most difficult problems, and that is a shortage of not only technical but administrative personnel. Without this, smooth government is impossible. In training people for such jobs in African countries where the revolutionary democrats are in leadership a big role is played by party schools and various courses and seminars. In a number of countries, like for example in the People's Republic of the Congo and in Benin, the students of such courses gain the Marxist-Leninist theories. In the People's Republic of the Congo the higher party school has graduated many leading government officials. And so there are a lot of knowledgeable people running the party's policy in all governing bodies. Since the revolutionary democratic parties are the ruling parties they pay a lot of attention to involving the working people in deciding government affairs. In the case of the Republic of the Congo, in the bodies of city self-government elected after the new constitution 35 percent of the deputies are workers and many of them are members of the Party of Labor and that helps the party have a direct influence on these bodies.

A similar situation exists in other progressive countries on the continent. In African countries where the revolutionary democrats are in power new bodies have been set up that represent a truly people's government. However, the job of breaking with the old government apparatus and setting up a new one is far from complete. One of the main tasks before the revolutionary democrats is to fully and effectively control this apparatus, and this is what will strengthen people's government and insure economic and social progress in the countries with a socialist orientation.

SAVCHENKO NOTES GOOD USSR-AFGHAN RELATIONS

LD041528Y Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1300 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Leonid Brezhnev and Aleksey Kosygin have addressed a telegram to Nur Mohammad Taraki.

Our commentator, Igor Savchenko, on the occasion of the issuance of this cordial message of congratulations says:

The principles described in the Soviet leaders' telegram have formed and continue to form the basis of Soviet-Afghan relations in all their stages of development, and are considered to constitute a healthy ground upon which these relations develop fruitfully and successfully.

One should bear in mind that when its relations with Afghanistan began, the Soviet Government, with V. I. Lenin at the head, told its first ambassador to Afghanistan:

Tell the Afghan Government that we do not interfere in your internal affairs. We will not interfere with your people's self-determination. We will assist you in anything that plays a progressive role in your people's development.

Based on this principle and on the national liberation movement, the Soviet Government provided considerable support against the British imperialism [as heard]. More importantly, it recognized the independence of Afghanistan, and Soviet Russia, based on this principle, was the first country to extend assistance for developing Afghanistan's economy, culture, freeways, and hydroelectric systems, irrigation canals, factories, educational institutes and gas fields. These are some aspects of the sincere assistance of the Soviet people to the people of Afghanistan, their southern and friendly neighbor.

Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation has assumed a long-term basis and it has brought great influence to bear on not only Afghanistan's progress, but also on other matters. Cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan is also developing in the cultural and political fields. Today, the people of the Soviet Union note with satisfaction that the forecast by Lenin, who said that the Soviet Union will always remain a firm friend of the Afghan Government, has been sufficiently materialized in our time. The Soviet people firmly express the confidence that since the important changes in the history of Afghanistan's national liberation, relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan--relations based on firm friendship and fruitful cooperation--will assume a new outlook in terms of their development.

The Soviet people welcomed the remarks made by Nur Mohammad Taraki, the chairman of the Revolutionary Council, head of state and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, with understanding and satisfaction. He said that the new government will pursue an independent and peaceful foreign policy based on coexistence of countries, and that Afghanistan will continue to pursue the policy of nonalinement, which best of all serves the Afghan people's interest and allows all forces and attention of the people and the country's resources to be geared to solving economic, cultural and social development problems facing the people. At the same time, the nonalinement policy will make an important contribution to general peace and international security--something coinciding precisely with the vital interests of our countries and all nations the world over.

The government is taking its first steps. More and more countries have extended recognition to this republic. The first decrees of the new government have been issued. The people enthusiastically welcome the victory of the 27 April revolution. The Soviet people wish great success for the Afghan nation and its leaders in their imminent tasks relating to the country's national and social progress.

SITUATION CALM 'EVERYWHERE' IN AFGHANISTAN

LD041530Y Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1300 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] TASS and PRAVDA correspondents report from Kabul that the situation is calm everywhere in Afghanistan. Traffic on the roads to the capital proves that life is returning to normal in the city. The people's enthusasim is observed on the roads. Enterprises, banks and shops are busy.

Certain buildings have been damaged. For example, the Presidential Palace has been severely damaged. But work has been started to repair the damage caused in recent clashes.

A spontaneous meeting was held in a square in Kabul in support of the Revolutionary Council. Speakers warmly and enthusiastically spoke about the remarks by the representative of the armed forces regarding the fact that power has been transferred to the people of Aghanistan.

AFGHAN LEADER DENIES STORIES OF MASS KILLINGS

LD041520Y Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 4 TASS--Radio Kabul has broadcast a statement by the Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Head of Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Nur Mohammad Taraki condemning the hostile propaganda campaign conducted against the young republic by some publications of the reactionary foreign press. International reaction, he said, resorts to various forms and methods of subversive activity against the liberation movement of the peoples of the world, against progressive and patriotic regimes. Today when state power in Afghanistan has passed into the hands of truly national, progressive, democratic and patriotic forces as a result of the victorious revolution of April 27, international reaction has launched a malicious and lying propaganda campaign that distorts fac and the essence of events. It tries to delude the international public in respect of the revolution of April 27. That national-democratic revolution was accomplished on the basis of a direct expression of the people's will and without the slightest foreign interference. It has the full support of broad segments of the people of Afghanistan.

On rejecting the concoctions by international reactionary circles that thousands of people were allegedly killed or executed during the revolution, Nur Mohammad Taraki said that not more than a hundred people had died during the events of April 27, that the revolutionaries had acted in accordance with the principles of Islam, respect for human rights and national traditions.

After the victory of the revolution, he said further, Afghanistan began to pursue a fully independent and peace-loving policy of positive neutrality. In conclusion N.M. Taraki stressed that the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are resolutely defending and will defend the gains of the April 27 national-democratic revolution, will do everything depending on them to attain its ultimate aims.

As reported by Kabul Radio, a meeting of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was held in Kabul and was chaired by Nur Mohammad Taraki. It heard reports on the activities of the ministries and on the situation in the country. The radio notes that order and tranquility reign throughout Afghanistan, that institutions and stores are working normally.

COMMENTATOR GREETS VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ON MAY DAY

OW050213Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 1 May 78 OW

[Lensov Commentary]

[Text] On the occasion of the day of solidarity with the world's working people, the Soviet people, who are building communism, extend fraternal greetings to the Vietnamese people, who are marching along the path of socialist construction. The Soviet people hold heroic Vietnam and the Vietnamese communists' glorious party in great esteem. We still remember Comrade Le Duan's words that each advance of the Vietnamese people and each victory of the Vietnamese revolution is linked to the Soviet Union's support and assistance.

Our two peoples greet May Day this year amidst an enthusiastic labor atmosphere. The Soviet people rejoice over the fruits of the Vietnamese people's valiant and arduous efforts to implement the fourth party congress resolutions and consider them as their own. Comrade Brezhnev has pointed out that the CPSU resolutely supports the VCP's line aimed at turning Vietnam into a prosperous socialist country. He stressed that the USSR will continue to provide fraternal Vietnam with all the assistance necessary in developing its socialist economy.

Dear friends, we know that for the Vietnamese people May Day is also linked to another festive day: the day of complete liberation of beloved South Vietnam. This year, we observe the third anniversary of this great historic event. Our country highly evaluates Vietnam's historic victory and its effect on the cause of freedom and independence of all nations and on the consolidation of peace and international security. We are truly satisfied with the continuous development of fraternal relations between the CPSU and the VCP.

Speaking at the ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution, Comrade Le Duan said: In the common struggle for the success of socialism and communism, the parties and peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union have forged an intimate and unshakable militant solidarity. The communists and people of Vietnam are determined to consolidate and heighten this great friendship and fine relationship.

Dear friends, responding to the May Day slogans of the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet people wish the Vietnamese people many new achievements in building socialism and in developing Vietnamese-Soviet friendship.

PRAVDA NOTES 'REDISTRIBUTION' OF LABOR IN VIETNAM

LD041531Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Skvortsov report: "Bright Horizons"]

[Text] Hanoi--The cities and villages of Vietnam are decorative and festive these days. On the eve of the working people's international holiday--May Day--the Vietnamese people are celebrating victory day for the third time, which came to their land on 30 April 1975 after long, hard years of heroic struggle.

Having won freedom and defended the gains of the socialist revolution, the heroic people today speak proudly of their impressive acnievements. 1975 was the year of total liberation; 1976 was the year of state reunification and the proclamation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]; 1977 was the first year of the implementation of the decisions of the Fourth Communist Party of Vietnam [VCP] Congress.

The united, 50-million strong SRV is now confidently marching forward along the path of rebuilding the national economy, setting itself the aim of creating the firm material and technical base of socialism and improving the people's living standards.

The SRV is pursuing an active foreign policy and is strengthening cooperation with the socialist countries with all peace-loving states and with its Asian neighbors. In addition, is playing an important role in the nonalinement movement. SRV Prime Minister Pham Van Dong's visits to India and Sri Lanka and other foreign policy acts of the SRV are raising its prestige in the international arena still higher.

Much has already been done. As the third session of the SRV National Assembly, which approved the 5-year plan for 1976-80 and the specific tasks for 1978, noted, the republic's main achievement lies in a rapid growth of the economy, the development of science and culture, and raising the efficiency of the use and distribution of the country's manpower. Since 1976, an additional 4 million people have joined in labor activity. Here in the southern provinces, where mass unemployment remained as a legacy from the puppet regime, work has been successfully provided for 200,000 people at their place of residence and for approximately another 1 million in the new economic regions.

In 1978, the number of workers in industry and handicrafts will increase to 2 million in the republic compared with 1.69 million in 1975; the number of workers in agriculture will increase to 11.8 million compared with 11.5 million, and in forestry, to 500,000 compared with 380,000. The mobilization of manpower is taking place at the same time as its redistribution. From the overpopulated provinces of the Red River Delta, the seaboard regions and Ho Chi Minh City, hundreds of thousands of people are emigrating in an organized manner to the foothills and the Mekong Delta, where enormous natural resources await development.

The annual industrial production growth rates in the SRV now are 12-13 percent. The targets are being overfulfilled for the extraction of coal, for electricity, for the production of cement, and for other sectors of the economy. The production of new types of output has been assimilated, including complete sets of equipment for medium and small enterprises, hydraulic pumps, dredgers, fishing vessels, transformers and electric motors. Vietnam has begun producing 12-horsepower tractors and has assimilated the rolling of steel, the smelting of special types of pig iron and the production of a number of petrochemical products.

The hard, prolonged cold in 1977 in the northern provinces, the drought throughout the republic and the typhoon in the fall, which caused damage to the seaborad regions of north and center of the country, had an effect on agricultural development. But even under these conditions people succeeded in doing more than in 1976. In this time 450,000 hectares of land abandoned as a result of the war were restored and 300,000 hectares of virgin land were opened up.

Analyzing and assessing the situation in the country since the 1975 victory, the Fourth VCP Congress defined the order for solving the problems facing the republic. At the first stage of socialist industrialization a central place was allocated to machine building. This should insure the rapid mechanization of agriculture, which in turn will make it possible to rapidly expand the arable land area. Tractors are appearing increasingly frequently in the fields where the main and frequently the only work animals were buffaloes. The construction of dams, canals, and reservoirs, in which millions of people have been enlisted, is helping to raise the yield of agricultural crops.

A feature of Vietnam today is that its new economy is being formed under the conditions of the temporary existence of a variety of social structures.

The south, liberated 3 years ago, is now passing through a period of transformations. At the first stage, which began in 1975, the tasks of establishing, organizing and reinforcing the power of the people, preventing hunger, and providing work for the unemployed were resolved. At the second stage, which began in 1976, together with settling these problems, they embarked on liquidating the comprador bourgeoisie and nationalizing big industrial enterprises, banks and trading firms abandoned by their fleeing owners. Now the third stage has begun, when the main efforts of the party and people are concentrated directly on socialist restructuring and above all on abolishing private capitalist relations, especially in trade. On 31 March, the SRV Government adopted a resolution in which measures are being taken to transfer large-scale private trade into the hands of the state. The essence of these measures is that the state encourages the transfer of private capital and material assets and equipment to joint state-private industrial and agricultural enterprises. The former owners are compensated for the cost of the equipment and goods in accordance with firm state prices plus 10 percent as damages for the temporary loss of income.

Since they do not have a solid material base, many merchants are being given help in organizing themselves into production cooperatives. And although not all former merchants have accepted this solution, with some of them have even tried to prevent nationalization, particularly the Chinese from the Cho Long region in Ho Chi Minh City, they have not succeeded in delaying the implementation of the program for creating state trade institutions and making them accord more closely with the working people's requirements. The business of socialist transformations is advancing successfully.

The peasantry is also now being involved in the process of social transformations in the south. Millions of farms here have already been recruited to the intiial forms of production cooperation--production groups; mutual help associations; groups for the joint use of agricultural machinery. Cooperatives of a higher type have also been created where the land is socialized. There are now one or two of these cooperatives in each province and they are regarded as still experimental. The experience they have already accumulated is being generalized. The special committee on socialist transformations in agriculture in the south is preparing an extended conference of representatives of all provinces, which will elaborate future recommendations.

Great and complex tasks now lie on the shoulders of the Vietnamese communists and all the people as they celebrate the third anniversary of the great national victory. This anniversary comes in the year in which the CVP Central Committee and SRV Government are allocating a decisive role in fulfilling the stepped-up targets of the 5-year plan: insuring the production of 16-16.5 million tons of food; opening up a further 700,000 hectares of land; increasing the volume of capital construction; constructing hundreds of thousands of square meters of new housing.

As in the past, Vietnam is supported by the fraternal socialist states, including our country, which is rendering technical and economic support in planning and constructing 94 national-scale projects in addition to the 200 which have been commissioned with Soviet aid in previous years.

Profound changes are taking place in Vietnamese society. Vietnam has become the first country in Southeast Asia to have totally liquidated illiteracy. A network of medical institutions has been created and continues to expand. National culture is flourishing. There are tens of thousands of students in the republic. With every passing year an increasing number of new, skilled specialists is joining the ranks of the working class. The number of machine operators, agronomists, teachers and engineers in the countryside is growing.

Only 3 years separate the country from the victorious spring of 1975, but already industrialization is developing and the mechanization and enlargement of agricultural production is underway throughout the entire country. Socialist transformations and the reorganization of the economy in the southern provinces are entering a decisive stage. And, however many difficulties may be encountered today and tomorrow, and however complex the path into the future may seem, this path is a bright one for Vietnam that leads to clear, broad horizons.

VIETNAM URGES NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH CAMBODIA

LD051130Y Moscow TASS in English 1112 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 5, TASS--The permanent representation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the United Nations, in a statement published here, has turned down point-blank the gross slander and fabrications, circulated by the Kampuchean side, which is trying to accuse the Socialist Republic of Vietnam of "aggression" against Kampuchea.

The statement stresses that as of April 1975 Kampuchean troops repeatedly intruded into the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and committed crimes against the population of frontier areas.

Desirous to preserve friendship and goodneighbourly relations between the two countries, the document runs, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has advanced constructive and concrete proposals aimed at the earliest settlement of relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea. But Kampuchea not only refused to answer the reasonable and constructive proposals of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, but continues to violate the frontiers of Vietnam, makes slanderous allegations and fans up a campaign of national hostility against Vietnam.

The Vietnamese people are confident that the problems affecting the relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea, can be settled on a just basis through negotiations, stresses the statement of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

HUA KUO-FENG ARRIVES IN PYONGYANG FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

LD050802Y Moscow TASS in English 0757 GMT 5 May 78 LD

[Text] Pyongyang, May 5, TASS--Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Hua Kuo-feng, has arrived for an official visit here, the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY reports.

[Moscow in Korean to Korea at 1335 GMT on 4 May notes that "this is the Chinese leader's first trip abroad."]

PRAVDA NOTES DPRK AWARDS TO SOVIET ENGINEERS, WORKERS

LD041431Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Razuvayev report: "A Friend's Hand"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 2 May--Half of the iron and one-fourth of the steel and rolled metal produced by People's Korea comes from the Kim Chak plant in Chongjin.

This enterprise is one of the many examples of fruitful cooperation between our two countries. A deed of transfer was signed here recently for Korean receipt of oxygen conversion and rolling shops, as well as other projects erected with technical assistance from the Soviet Union.

Soviet workers and engineers played a direct part in installing and implementing the high productivity machinery prepared by the collectives of the Elektrosila, Uralmash, Novokramatorskiy and other machine-building plants. On the decision of the DPRK Government, 243 of them have been awarded orders and medals of the republic.

The modernization of the Chongjin metallurgical plant is continuing. The installation and testing of equipment in the sector for the integrated cutting of sheet steel is now being completed. The block where a cold rolling mill sent from the USSR is to be installed is being erected successfully. With the help of the Soviet Union it is planned to install one more converter, as well as a mixer for hot iron and certain other projects.

BREZHNEV EXCHANGES TELEGRAMS WITH JAPANESE EMPEROR

LD021730Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 2 May 78 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent a telegram to Hirohito, emperor of Japan, conveying congratulations and wishes for prosperity to the Japanese people on the occasion of the country's national festival.

In a reply telegram, the emperor of Japan expressed his sincere gratitude for the warm wishes.

YASNOV, ARKHIPOV ATTEND JAPANESE EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD031439Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Text] On 28 April Akira Shigemitsu, Japanese ambassador to the USSR, held a reception to mark a national holiday.

The reception was attended by M.A. Yasnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

NEGATIVE JAPANESE REACTION TO SENKAKU EXASPERATES PRC

LD042218Y Moscow TASS in English 1954 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, May 4, TASS--The Peking-provoked incident near the Senkaku Islands was firmly condemned by the Japanese public at large. The intrusion of Chinese fishing boats, many of which were armed with machineguns and were hung with placards stating that "Senkaku Is China's Territory," into Senkaku area was viewed in Japan as a manifestation of Peking's hegemonism. China's provocative actions cooled the heads of some zealous supporters of an earliest conclusion of the Japanese-Chinese "treaty of peace and friendship" on terms dictated by Peking, and confirmed the legitimacy of the apprehensions among those Japanese political figures who called for a cautious approach in this matter.

The negative reaction in Japan to the incident near the Senkaku incident which, according to Peking strategists' plans was to urge the Japanese Government to conclude the "treaty of peace and friendship" at an earliest date, aroused an utter exasperation of Chinese leaders. As Tokyo newspapers report today, at yesterday's meeting in Peking with the Japanese delegation of the workers of television and broadcasting companies led by K. Hamaguchi, Ulanfu, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), deputy chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, openly criticised the Japanese side for "a large-scale propaganda" in Japan in connection with the developments near Senkaku Islands.

The "large-scale propaganda" means the demands which are being expressed in Japan that without solving the question of territorial rights to Senkaku Islands, the Japanese-Chinese treaty of peace and friendship should not be concluded, MAINICHI writes. "The statement by Ulanfu is the reflection of discontent inside the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee over Japan's actions," Tokyo SHIMBUN points out. "Up to now the Chinese side's discontent over the stand of some representatives of the Liberal-Democratic Party of Japan on the question of territorial rights to Senkaku Islands was expressed unofficially, whereas now the Chinese leaders for the first time expressed it openly."

Peking does not like that Japan did not yield to gross Chinese pressure and did not hush up the Senkaku incident which again demonstrated China's territorial claims to neighbouring countries and exposed the adventuristic essence of the Chinese foreign policy course.

JAPANESE DEMONSTRATE IN SUPPORT OF CONSTITUTION

LD031636Y Moscow TASS in English 1531 GMT 3 May 78 LD

["For a Peaceful Japan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 TASS--Millions of Japanese took part in meetings and demonstrations that took place today all over the country in defence of the Constitution. The manifestations were organized by the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, trade unions and other progressive associations of Japan to mark the 31st anniversary of the entering into force of the country's fundamental law.

The participants in the meetings and demonstrations stated their determination to uphold the peaceful and democratic provisions of the Constitution, to launch struggle on a still wider scale against the revival of militarism and the strengthening of the dangerous military alliance with the USA. The current Japanese Constitution was adopted at the wave of upsurge of the democratic movement in the country in the first post-war years. Under the pressure of the working people and the public, a number of progressive provisions were included in the Constitution, among them Article Nine which proclaims renunciation of war and armaments.

All these years Japan's ruling circles have not been abandoning attempts at reconsidering the country's fundamental law. At present their main efforts are aimed at legalizing the army and the provision of it with the most up-to-date weapons. More than 260,000 people have already been placed under arms. They are stationed at 2,400 military bases and installations and have in their service fighter-bombers, tanks, rockets, and submarines. At present the military, with the support of monopolies and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, are straining after nuclear weapons. The ruling circles' attempts encounter a resolute resistance of the entire Japanese people. This was once again reaffirmed by today's mass action the participants of which condemned the revival of militarism and demonstrated their striving to protect the peaceful future of their motherland.

TOKYO CORRESPONDENT VIEWS WORKERS SPRING ACTION CAMPAIGN

LD010846Y Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 1 May 78 LD

["Japan: Flame of Class Battles"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 1, TASS--Red banners, the symbols of the proletarian resolve to wage the struggle against the omnipotence of capital, are flying on the May Day not only over columns of millions of demonstrators in the streets of Japanese cities, but also at the gates and entrances of hundreds and thousands of enterprises and offices where strikes are now held, writes PRAVDA's Tokyo correspondent Igor Latyshev. Taking part in the spring action this year are 8,720 thousand [as received] Japanese factory and office workers whose actions are guided by the committee for the joint holding of the nation-wide spring action, Latyshev writes: The nation-wide strikes made the administration of state and municipal enterprises, as well as of the private railways to increase the wages somewhat. The wage increase at the private railways amounted to 6.8 per cent of the month wages and at the state owned railways to 5.4 per cent. But these wages increases do not offset the drop of the real wages of the factory and office workers over the past year that resulted from the inflation and price increases on necessities. Because of this, by the end of April the conflicts were settled only at 137 out of 326 major private enterprises in Japan. The situation is even more tense at medium and small enterprises. Strikes are now held at many of them.

"Strengthening solidarity with the working people of socialist countries, we are determined to fight resolutely against the evils of capitalism, to fight for the purpose of finally liquidating capitalism," Chairman of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan Motofumi Makieda, who heads the committee for the joint holding of the nation-wide spring action, told PRAVDA's correspondent. "The specific features of the spring action of the Japanese working people in the current year are connected with the crisis of Japan's economy," Makieda said. "In addition to the demand of a wage increase, we advance in our spring actior such demands as additional state benefits for the unemployed, the lessening of taxation of the working people, improvement of the medical care for the population and increase of governmental allocations for pensions. The spring action in the current year is marked by a more persistent struggle than before. By all indications, the workers' struggle will be conducted at about 60 percent of the country's enterprises."

PELSHE, KAPITONOV ATTEND MOSCOW CELEBRATION

LD042205Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Representatives of the working people of Moscow today marked the 33d anniversary of the liberation of the German people from Hitlerite fascism with a festive meeting. Among those present were Pelshe, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member; Kapitonov, CPSU Central Committee secretary; other officials.

A report was delivered by Marshal of Aviation Rudenko.

GDR ambassador Ott expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet people who displayed unprecedented heroism during the war in the name of delivering mankind from fascism.

MASHEROV ATTENDS BELORUSSIAN TEACHERS CONGRESS

LD041426Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Summary] The Belorussian teachers congress opened today in Minsk. Its main topic is how to improve the education of the new generation and prepare them for work in light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

"A speech was made by Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belorussia."

ALIYEV ATTENDS KOMSOMOL CC PLENUM IN BAKU

LD041420Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Summary] Baku--A plenum of the Azerbaijan Komsomol Central Committee today relieved Comrade Guseynov of his duties as first secretary of the republican Komsomol in connection with his election to the post of secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee.

Comrade (Kuslim Zade) has been elected new first secretary.

"A speech was made by Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan."

MOSCOW RADIO AGRICULTURES REPORTS FOR 4 MAY

LD050415 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 4 May reports that as of 4 May, 1 million hectares of early cereal crops had been sown in Uralskaya and Aktyubinskaya Oblast (Kazakhstan). The same report adds that the mass sowing of wheat has begun in Saratovskaya Oblast (RSFSR). No figure for the number of hectares sown is given. The same broadcast also reports that cotton sowing has been completed in Chardzhouskaya Oblast (Turkmenia).

At 0600 GMT, Moscow Radio reports that farmworkers in Kazakhstan have sown spring crops on 5 million hectares so far. All 19 oblasts of the republic are in the process of sowing crops, with barley, wheat and corn being sown in central, western and eastern oblasts and cotton sowing nearly completed in the south. Spring crops will occupy almost 30 million hectares in Kazakhstan this year, the radio says.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that early grain crops have been sown on 1.7 million hectares, 60 percent of the allotted area, in Saratovskaya Oblast. Spring wheat accounts for 500,000 hectares of that total.

The same broadcast also says that in spite of delays in fieldwork as a result of capricious weather, the sowing of grain crops and sugar beets is nearly completed in Orlovskaya Oblast (RSFSR). The report adds that small areas of winter crops in the oblast will have to be resown, but it gives no figures for the extent of resowing.

The 1100 GMT broadcast also says that the sowing of corn has been somewhat delayed in Moldavia because of bad weather. So far, 70 percent of the planned 400,000 hectares has been sown.

The same broadcast also mentions that soy beans are assuming an increasingly important place as cattle feed. In Saratovskaya Oblast, soy beans are now being planted on the irrigated steppes east of the Volga on 20,000 hectares this year, with the likely prospect that the area will be expanded in subsequent years.

At 1330 GMT the radio reports that the sowing of spring grain crops has been completed in Volgogradskaya Oblast. Such crops cover 4 million hectares.

At 1900 GMT Moscow Radio says that fodder root crops, mainly beets, have been sown on 130,000 hectares.

SERVICEMEN IN WEST GEORGIA AID FLOOD VICTIMS

LD041321Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Lt Col Ya. Rasseko report: "In Defiance of the Elements"]

[Text] As already reported in the press, heavy rain has fallen in west Georgia. In a few days the quantity of precipitation exceeded the monthly norm. Moreover, the abundant melting of snow in the mountains raised the water level in many rivers. These overflowed, flooding meadows, fields and settlements in low-lying regions.

The personnel of a subunit commanded by Capt V. Lysenko came to the assistance of the stricken people. Boldness, resourcefulness and high skill in combatting the elements were displayed by the servicemen headed by officers V. Mamonov and Ye. Fedurin. Sgt S. Grigorovich, Pvts A. Vodopyanov, N. Shevchenko and others, who are all Komsomol members, acted fearlessly under very difficult conditions.

The servicemen were on duty for 3 days and nights by the overflowing mountain rivers, rescuing people and property. Where amphibious vehicles could not get through, a helicopter crew headed by Capt N. Mikhaylov rendered assistance. The experienced pilot made landings in what appeared to be impossible places, supplied the stricken people with everything they required, and ferried casualties to a safe place.

The servicemen displayed endurance and composure in the struggle against the raging elements. Their actions became, as it were, an illustration of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's words uttered from the rostrum of the Komsomol Congress: "The remarkable qualities of Soviet people are also manifested in the ranks of our glorious armed forces. Young people undergo real tempering there. There they not only learn organization and discipline but also display a high level of awareness, selflessness and at times real horoism as well."

The villagers are now returning to their homes. They are sending words of gratitude to the servicemen for the assistance they rendered.

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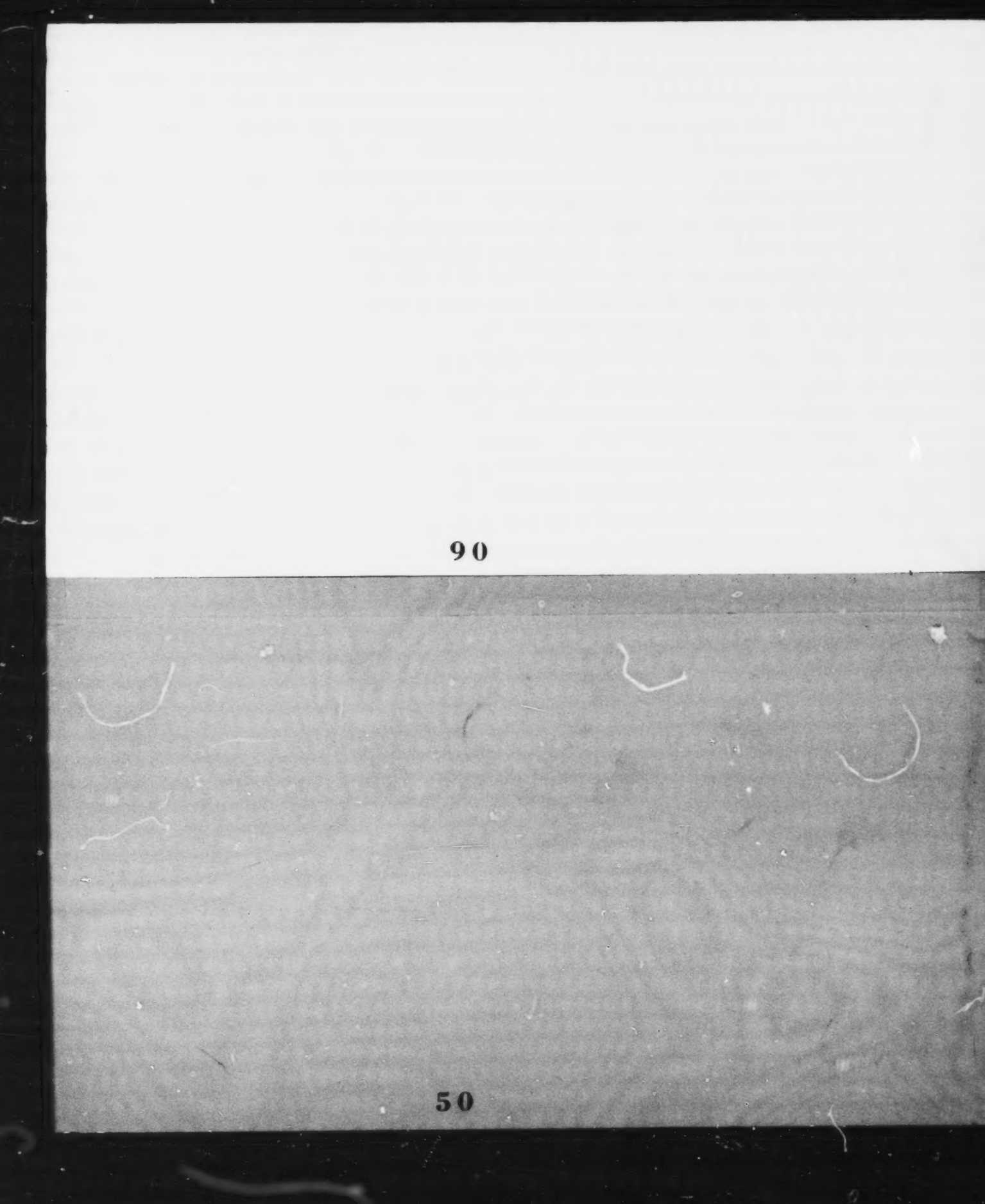
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